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12-PAGE MIDWEEK SECTION

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 1996-

WEATHER Dry and bright with patchy cloud 40p (IR 45p)

Blair wall urope

ANTHONY BEVINS Political Editor

Tony Blair vesterday went to Germany to pull off a breath-takingly bold political stroke on Europe, wearing his European colours with pride and delying the Tories to do their worst in smearing him as a man about to sell out Britain.

The Labour leader told his Bonn audience that he wanted to walk tall in Europe, not skulk on the sidelines, and in a bold speech directly took on Mr. Major's attempts to p ...ent

him as a "poodlo" who would warked over "by the big, bad barons of Brussels.

He made his move from an - try, that increasing position of Labour strength and Government drift The Westminster hothous starting to rumble with of an early, 5%

-ence sumaion that the one , at Mr Major's cap. ть Irish peace process, iened by a possible mthreat-Violence.

the pressure on Sinn Fein to eschew violence.

But even as he was returning from Heathrow, he got the first

against his Bonn speech, with Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, the Government's arch-Europhile, telling BBC radio's World at One that Labour was selling Britain

out to the Germans. Mr Blair told the German equivalent of the CBI: " We will - and with pride - fight the election on a platform of ending this perpetual and negative isolationism and I should tell you that I think our opponents are miscalculat?

I have no do to at all that Britain's future lies in the EU and at the centre of its events, not on the sidelines.

"It is demeaning to my coun-the rightly proud of traditions, to be ... ne margins of mgged along queruid the vision and ers. Britain should er place as a leader

Tor calls for a .I. Mr Blair said iew shared by few sue the Conservative but for the avoida he clarifie ance of doubt he clarifier I me position that would be taken by a Labour

Government. Relations based on our na-Having tag dashed back from ta himal interest, which demands skulking on the sidelines; constructive and engaged, not simply because the interests of Europe demand it, but above all

In spite of the fact that those words could have been written by Mr Heseltine before he returned to Government in 1990. the Deputy Prime Minister swung into the attack, saying: "It is utterly ludicrous for Tony Blair to go to Germany and say. All right, now we'll all be nice together, it'll all be one great

"He would get walker, over by much tougher, harder people who know the reality of the nation states fighting for su-" "macy within Europe."

love-in out there.

The Conservative Party chairman, Brian Mawhinney. said: "He would turn this nation into a doormat upon which other countries could wipe their

But Mr Blair's critics ignored the qualifications of his text. He said: "We will work closely with Germany and others to help make sure EMU is given the best chance of working."

However, as the ...an who could be chairing the British-Presidency talks on Economic and Monetary Union next June. he also warned that precipitate action could do untold damage. Without sustainable economic convergence between single currency states, he said, there would be a risk to the weake economies and to employment.

The result could be a reaction amongst the people that could be severe, nationalist in tone and dangerous. That is not the policy of scepticism but of prudence. But it is not our purpose to derail the project.

because the interests of Britain Beef cull fear, p: 2 taste of the Tory onslaught French and Germans oppose single currency

....car Correspondent

The people of Germany, France and Britain are all opposed to a single European currency - in Britam's case by a huge 4-to-1 majority - if they are asked a question about the "hard" practicalities rather than the broad principle, according to a Har-

ris poll for the Independent.
(i) British voters, 78 per cent agreed that "Britain should keen the pound", while only 18 per cent thought the pound should be replaced by the Euro. due to be launched in 1999.

This is the highest figure yet recorded for opposition to the single currency, because Harris specified in its question that key decisions on interest rates and monetary policy" would be taken either by a European Central Bank or the British govShould there be a single European cur-tency with key decisions on interest stes and increasity pobby taken by a new European Central Bank?

Belg France Ger UK 40 43 29 18 No 50 55 70 78

The findings of the fourcountry poll suggest that the whole of Europe could be moving in a Euro-sceptical direction. Germans oppose a single cur-rency by 80 to 19 per cent, and the normally pro-singlecurrency French are opposed by 79 to 19 per cent in these terms. Even the ultra-European Belgians are opposed by 50 to 29 per cent.

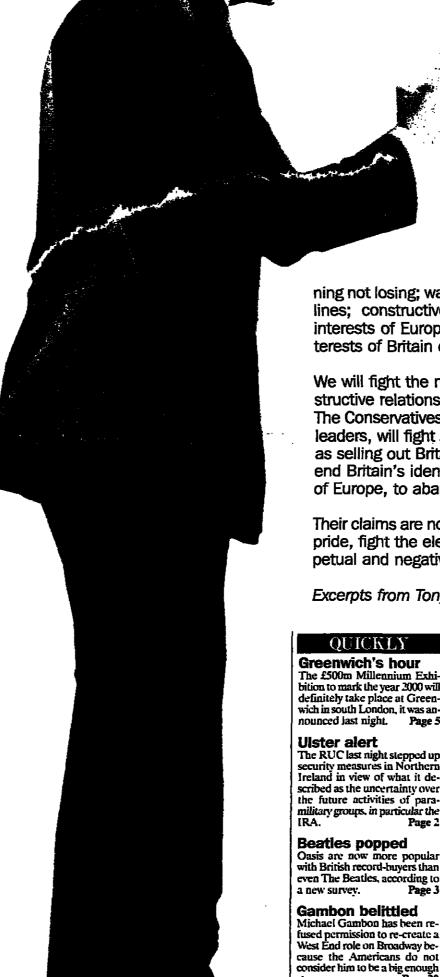
The poll comes as an all-party House of Lords committee warns of the dangers of Britain being left out of a single currency if Germany and France go ahead. The report of its sixmonth inquiry, published today, says "it may be difficult to resist" pressures for informal trade discrimination against countries which do not join

monetary union. The Independent's poll also confirms that German public opinion is the real obstacle to a settlement of the dispute over

British beef exports. Two-thirds of German voters (n7 per cent) believe their government rather than the European Union should decide when it is safe for British beef to be sold in Germany.

Opinion in France and Bel-gium is less hostile, with 51 per cent and 48 per cent of voters prepared to leave the decision to the EU. ☐ Harris Research interviewed

516 people in Belgium, 1,032 in 1.025 in Great Britain this



Britain's future at the centre, not the sidelines

I want you to know that, however unfairly we believe we have been treated, I reject, and most British people reject unreservedly, the xenophobia and anti-German sentiment that this crisis has engendered in certain quarters.

I have no doubt at all that Britain's future lies in the EU, and at the centre of its events, not on the side-

It is demeaning to my country, that is so rightly proud of its history and traditions, to be reduced to the margins of influence, dragged along querulously behind the vision and drive of others.

I intend to lead a new Labour govemment that will provide a fresh start in Britain's relations with Europe ... which demands that we are a leading player in Europe; succeeding in Europe, not failing; win-

ning not losing; walking tall in Europe, not skulking on the sidelines; constructive and engaged, not simply because the interests of Europe demand it, but above all because the interests of Britain demand it.

We will fight the next election as the party in favour of a constructive relationship within Europe.

The Conservatives, whatever the true instincts of some of their leaders, will fight it trying to portray a new Labour government as selling out Britain to Europe. They will say that we want to end Britain's identity as a nation state in some United States of Europe, to abandon Britain's veto over all areas of policy.

Their claims are nonsense, and they know it. We will, with pride, fight the election on a platform of ending this perpetual and negative isolationism.

Excerpts from Tony Blair's speech to the BDI

QUICKLY

Greenwich's hour The £500m Millennium Exhibition to mark the year 2000 will definitely take place at Greenwich in south London, it was an-

Ulster alert

The RUC last night stepped up security measures in Northern Ireland in view of what it described as the uncertainty over the future activities of paramilitary groups, in particular the

Beatles popped Oasis are now more popular with British record-buyers than even The Beatles, according to

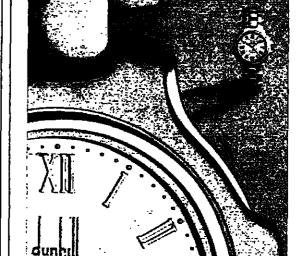
a new survey. Gambon belittled Michael Gambon has been refused permission to re-create a West End role on Broadway be cause the Americans do not

CONTENTS Section 1 **BUSINESS 15-19 COMMENT** 11-13 LAW REPORT 14 **LEADER AND LETTERS 11**

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ty council to prevent "any conflicts which could be dangerous



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Generals in Moscow coup attempt

PHIL REEVES Moscow

Grou;

4

Russia's fastest rising politi-cian, Alexander Lebed, yesterday claimed to have souffed out an attempted military coup after the sacking of the Russian elefence minister. Pavel Grachev.

connerat Lebed said that he outside with the intervened after a group of the grown of the control of generals gathered outside Mr man on said to bruchey's office, and total of Franciscopic of the control of the contr ersuade him to put the army red alert in an effort to perle President Boris Yeltsin to

re the dismissal decision.

At a press conference yes-terday, General Lebed compared the scheme to the failed coup of 1991, in which a group of hardline Communists tried to unseat Mikhail Gorbachev, accelerating the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party. He later toned down his claims, saying it was merely an

Yeltsin. But he repeated allegations of a thwarted coup on Russian television last night. His remarks appear to have caused consternation in the

nomyrdin, said he knew nothing of General Lebed's accusation and described reports of a challenge to Mr Yeltsin as

The general yesterday shot to the lofty heights of secretary of the policy-making security council and national security adviser after coming third in Sunday's attempt to put pressure on Mr Yeltsin. But he repeated alle-election with almost 15 per cent of the vote. His appointment to some of the most sought-after jobs in the Kremlin was a blatant effort by Pres-Russian government - the rime Minister, Viktor Chervoters in the election run-off. ident Yeltsin to win over his

The retired general, a mod- Moscow district military headerate nationalist who campaigned on his ruthless attitude to law and order, accused five generals, together with the Georgian defence minister, of

being at the offending meeting. Although details of the incident remained cloudy last night. General Lebed told NTV that he ordered the central command point at the army's general headquarters to place a block on forwarding any orders made by the sacked General Grachev, whom he has long regarded as an arch-enemy. He said he went to the

sued a telegram to all units telling them about his appointment and asking them to keep calm and continue with military exercises. "I do not know the thrilling details of how it was planned to be," he said, "I just took my own measures." He said it was his

duty as secretary of the securi-

quarters to intercept the former

minister's commands, and is-

for the state". Grachev fired, page 8 Leading article, page 11

هكذا من الأصل



Questions Adams must answer

DAVID McKITTRICK and ALAN MURDOCH

The Royal Ulster Constabulary last night stepped up security measures in Northern Ireland in view of what it described as uncertainty over the future activities of paramilitary groups, in particular the IRA

Road checkpoints were mounted in and around Belfast and other districts on a scale not seen since before the IRA ceaselire of August 1994. In a several provincial towns barri-cades which have of late been left open were locked.

The indications from security sources are that the measures are considered prudent in the wake of the IRA bomb attack the Irish government decided to on Manchester rather than be- keep open a line of communi-

and PAUL FIELD

Britain could be forced to cull

an extra 67,000 cows to meet

European demands for the

eradication of BSE in the British herd, Douglas Hogg, the

embattled Minister of Agriculture, told MPs yesterday.

Downing Street sources last

night signalled that Britain may

be prepared to go along with the demands in order to secure a

deal on the framework plan for

lifting the ban on British beef

exports before the EU summit

But Mr Hogg was warned by Tory members of the Agricul-ture Select Committee that he

would face stiff resistance from

MPs and farmers if he went

ahead with the extended cull.

to 80,000 cattle to give assur-

ances to its European part-

ners, but Mr Hogg told the

cross-party select committee that an additional cull of cattle

born in 1989-90 was being de-manded by EU ministers. That

would mean raising the cull by an additional 67,000 cattle.

mands to slaughter another

veloping BSE, provided a

framework for lifting the beef

ban is agreed. But Mr Hogg

said: "I am very much aware that there would be consider-

able anxiety about a proposal

for a compulsory cull in respect

"I should say that the press

reports to the effect that we

have put that year on the table.

which appeared today, are quite

20,000, if the cattle in the year

1989-90 were to be the subject.

of a commulsory cull - and that

is not our proposal - the num-

difficulty in extending the se-lective cull to the year 1980-00

because farmers had not been

required to keep records then.

Alexander, Tory MP for Newark, that culling an extra

20,000 eattle was "at the borders

of acceptability". Edward Leigh.

a Euro-sceptic Tory MP, said the

cull of 30-month-old cattle con-

tributed "not one jot" to the pro-

Farmers said last night they

of the proposal for a selective—the European Court of Justice.

would not accept an extension

tection of human health.

He was warned by Richard

Mr Hogg said there would be

bers are around 67,000.7

of the year 1989-90.

Reports yesterday suggested

that the Government was pre- at the end of the first day. UK

pared to consider European de- officials said yesterday that they

20,000 cattle most at risk of de- this timetable. The Prime Min-

Britain has offered to cull up

on Friday in Florence.

Beef crisis: Deal on lifting ban could bring higher death toll

could add

67,000 to cull

EU demands

weeks ago harricades were locked in a number of towns, but this proved a false alarm.

Last night, a brief RUC statement said: "In view of the recent uncertainty over the intentions of paramilitary groups, especially on the republican front, it has been necessary to increase antiterrorist precautions throughout the province."

The moves came as political pressure was maintained, in both London on Dublin, on Sinn Fein and its president, Gerry Adams, to dissociate themselves from IRA violence in the wake of the Manchester bombing and the killing of an Irish ing based on firm knowledge of the organisation's plans. Some cation to Sinn Fein, while mak-ing clear that its relations with

cattle call which would mean an

extra 67,000 dairy cows being slaughtered. They say they

would rather see the export ban

remain in force than take part

in what they see as an unnec-essary scheme with no scientif-

"We can see a scenario where

we will refuse a selective cull and

the export ban will continue."

said Ian Gardiner, policy di-rector of the National Farmers'

Union. " It would concern us be-

cause exports are so important.

But we are not going to destroy

the livelihoods of thousands of

dairy farmers just in order to re-

■ The Government yesterday

diluted its threat to disrupt the

EU summit if no settlement is

reached in advance, write John

Officials said the Prime Min-

ister would be ready to discuss

other business so long as he was confident the beef dispute would

The Italian government

which is chairing the summit, is

expected to postpone full dis-cussion of the worldwide export

ban on British beef until heads

of government meet for dinner

would not necessarily object to

ister would participate in other

some kind of histrionic exhibi-

tion. Mr Major cannot stop

other EU leaders discussing

seem to have been discarded.

heef was on the agenda.

be dealt with at some point.

Lichfield and Sarah Helm.

sume beef exports."

ic justification.



the republican party would be actually breaking off contact.

wave of public revulsion in the was welcomed by the main op-position party, Fianna Fail, which has a proprietorial attitude towards the peace process. but was attacked by the smaller Progressive Democrats.

Fianna Fail's spokesman Ray Burke salid it was important to encourage the Adams leadership towards fulfilling a peace mandate, adding Income way forward is not to isolate, as we had for 25 years, but to built on the contacts that have been developed." He said Sine Fein "must get to the table but they must have a permanent peace to get to the lable".

But Mary Harney, the Progressive Democrat leader, said:

waiting for another bomb, or for Republic against the recent more people to be killed? There violence. The cabinet decision has been too much encourage ment, too much cajoling of Sinn Fein.

In the Commons John Mafor and Tony Blair united in putting pressure on Sinn Fein. The Prime Minister said it was a "moment of truth" for Gerry Adams. The Labour leader said the responsibility now lay with Sinn Fein to ensure the IRA ceased its violence.

In Dublin the Taoiseach, John Bruston, had earlier pressed for clear and communing replies clear and Convincing replies
clear and Convincing replies
that The specific and it
not why not." Mr Adams told
Irish radio that "the question of

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I Irish radio that "the question of what the IRA can or should do

In doing so the Irish government reflected the unmistakable was the day to be tough. Are we and will continue to work at". On support for the IRA he said: "Sing Fein wants to see an end to the armed struggle. We are not involved in it. We do not advocate it."

Police co-ordinating the hunt for the Manchester bombers believe they now have enough in formation to issue full descriptions of those who planted the device, writes James Cusick.

Detectives have built up a picture of events and the people involved from numerous interviews including a taxi driver who unwittingly ferried £2,000 during the sale of the van which was

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

Postal workers' leaders raised the stakes yesterday in their dispute with Royal Mail, when they called a second 24-hour strike to follow this Friday's day-long stoppage. The postal executive of the Communication Workers Union rejected a call for moderation by Alan Johnson, the general secretary, and opted for another walkout, next Friday. The executive decided that talks this week had not yielded enough concessions from

management.

Richard Dykes, Royal Mail managing director, has warned that the offer on pay will be withdrawn if the action continues. The main stambling block to a settlement is the Post Office's insistence on team working which the union believes is simply a device to extract more work from employees without adequate compensation. Barrie Clement

he Broadcasting Bill, which allows greater cross-ownership of newspapers, television and radio companies, and sets up a framework for digital television, yesterday completed its committee stage in the Commons. Iain Sproat, the National Heritage minister, fuelled speculation that privatisation of Channel Four could be included in the Tory election manifesto, when he persuaded two MPs, John Whittingdale and David Shaw, to withdraw a new clause and allow the Bill through.

The Bill will return for its report stage and third reading in the Commons next mouth, when the Government could be defeated over moves by Labour with some Tory support it? break the exclusive rights by BSkyB television to sports progra: sames. Colin. Som

Graduates should repay a proportion of their tuition of fees to help meet the cost of higher education, Labour was told yesterday. Baroness Tessa Blackstone, a Labour foreign affairs spokeswoman in the Lords, told a London conference that students should pay back 20 per cent of their fees. The vice-chancellors leader, Professor Gareth Roberts, said Labour would be unable to fund higher education recognition recognition to the state of the stat

Roberts, said Labour would be unable to find inglest education properly unless it insisted on loans for a portion of tuition fees.

To the dismay of some of its own supporters, Labour announced last month that it would abolish grants for living costs and offer students loans. Judith Judd

The makers of Anadin Paracetamoi won an "indefinite" High Court injunction yesterday, banning the Asda supermarket chain from selling the drug at below the legal minimum price. After a two-minute private hearing, Mr Justice Brian Smedley extended the temporary order granted last week to Whitehall Laboratories.

The case followed Asda's decision to cut the price of the tablets from £1.72 to 86p for 24 tablets, in contravention of Re-sale Price Maintenance (RPM) laws which set drug prices to ensure the survival of small pharmacies. The company has now taken Anadin Paracetamol off its shelves and is selling its own-brand. paracetam 1 ' ' ' ' 40 - 1p per tablet, compared with 7p for the Anac transfer flary

Acoust case centred on a tiny snall, which could delay construction of the £18m Newbury bypass, opened yester 'ay. A coalition of leading environmental al review in the High Court over rument is applying EU hag-dwelling Desmoulin's whorl snail.

· ·d or obliterated

Two small by the bypass Government's

while if want to still go ahead, with acjue... to beauty it more snail-friendly, bucca

Ayoung man stalked a.

Hampshire woodland affile armed rapist through a girlfriend. The terrified teenager was marched off by attacker, wearing a black and white comparched off by the armed with a handgun and a long-bladed fat jacket and Her boyfriend alerted police after he

Officers arriving at Havant Forest spotted the 16-year-old girl and her attacker before he disappeared into the undergrowth. Armed officers were called to the forest and a police spotter plane and helicopter with thermal imaging equipment were called in.

mployees in the EU should choose to work in Imployees in the Eu salutation holiday entitlement.
Germany for the most generous holiday entitlement, st pension contributions and Sweden for ludy for use containing to a report published maternity leave, according to a report published maternity leave, according given in a guide to benefits yesterday. The findings are Sedgwick Noble Lowndes and labour law by consultants with funds most of its "Apart from those in Denmark, w. he UK make the

benefits through taxation, employers in tusmallest mandatory contributions on your behal. ... 8% of salary," said the report. "With the exception of Ireland, wherever you go in Europe you are likely to get longer holidays than you do in the UK."

Navy day: Royal Marines showing their skills with a rope dropped from a Lynx helicopter on the .?liver Thames in London vesterday for the preview of this year's Royal Tournament, in which the Navy is the lead service Phuicenach: David Rose

A rose by any other name would be as clichéd

summit discussions, if he was as-Yesterday was Princess Alexandra's Rose Day. Which I had sured that a proper discussion of never heard of before. This week is National Hospices Cel-The comments can be seen as ebration Fortnight, and I must an attempt by the Government confess that I hadn't quite to pull back from outright confrontation. Without making cought up with that either. But MPs knew all about them both, and a conservatory full of pink roses and large sunflowers decwhatever they want, but he orated lapels on both sides. untrue. Though I'm bound to could refuse to take part in oth-When Harriet Harman took her place for Health questions, sans say I don't recognise the figure - er discussions or, when his turn came, repeat ad nauseum his arfleur, an aide (spotting that Secguments about beef. This option retary of State Dorrell was floribund) quickly passed Hat-Meanwhile, the European tie a bloom to fix to her chest Commission was last night before the TV cameras came to rest upon her. No public rela-

locked in intense debate in Strasbourg about the shape of tions advantage to either side the framework proposal itself. and no disasters. Although the Commission is The dress battle over, soundlikely to support the British idea hite war came next. This is where Labour charges the govof lifting the ban in steps, important elements of the British ernment with Sin of the Week teutrent favourites include indraft framework were last night competence and high taxation) rejected by the Commission. while a series of tough new conand the Tories respond in kind ditions were being proposed. (hypoerisy, no policy). Dor-In a separate attempt to serell's Bane, according to Harman was red tape, which was cure a reversal of the beef ban. Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney "children turned away from in-General, will today launch the first stage of a legal appeal at



AARONOVITCH sands of cancelled operations. As she reached the end of her lachrymose catalogue, tears did indeed prick the eyes of some of her more sensitive colleagues. Of shame, perhaps. The Tory benches were dane-

ing to the tune of their own whips, but it was not always easy to discern what this was. One large. florid MP stood to the sound of cheers. It was James Hill, member for the Test division of Southampton and newly knighted in the Queen's birthday honours for "political services". He certainly did not get the old sword on the shoulder for his speech making. In an eating up zquillions, leaving almost inaudible mutter he praised GP fund-holding betensive care, patients waiting cause under it "every GP can

nored the lepid distraction and delivered their pre-planned sound-bite, which was o Labour's lack of clear policy. The third area of contest

was a negative one - trying not to upset groups of voters un-necessarily. This manifested itself in Mr Dorrell's response to what can only be described as a hospital pass from that prolific questioner, John Marshall (Con. Hendon South). Mr Marshall was waxing indignant again the will get his gong for services to indignation) about beef. Was the minister aware that the highest incidence of CJD was in Austria (not Germany, true, but close), which should be made clear to people whether they are beef, or were

- in Mr Marshall's words - "stupid vegans". Vegans may be stupid, but Mr Dorrell is not. He knows that there is no law which obliges Britain's growing Vegan population to vote Labour. "The honourable member", he replied deftly, "expresses his own view about vegans - or a particular sub-group of them". The subhours on trolleys" and thou- run over fungus long before the group, remember, was stupid

lop-eared rabbit. Ministers ig vegans who, as Mr Dorrell had surmised, were those most likely - following Mr Marshall's intervention to vote . uservative.

naily there was the "good bloke " competition. Largely a feature of Pime Minister's Question Time G's is where party leaders associate themselves with those (usually recently deceased) whom the public loves. Sir Michael Neuhert (Con, Romford) invited Mr Major to reflect upon the life of Sir Fitzroy Madean - soldier, explorer, spv, diplomat and author - who had just popped his clogs. Having searched his poetic soul for an appropriate response Mr Major came up with this. "Sir Fitzroy lived life to the full. He would regard that as a very

satisfactory epitaph." Nonsensc. To have a life of extraordinary adventure summed up in one appalling cliche by a man who regards a return to Brixton as an act of almost Fiennesian bravery, would not have been well regarded by Sir Fitzroy. But then, unlike stupid vegans, Sir Fitzroy will not be casting his vote at the next

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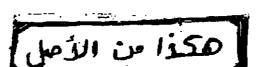


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On the day that Oasis became more popular than The Beatles, these albums show how pop is breaking up



IFICANT SHORTS

It's Great When You're Straight ... Yeah!

Most infectious dancerock party album of last year, replete with blues harps, electric sitars and slide guitars, over which stumblebum poet Shaun Ryder mutters enigmatic raps. All the swagger of



The Chemical Brothers Exit Planet Dust (Junior Boys' Own)

Wielding synthesisers like nvet-guns, DJ Chemical Brothers make the kind of dance music rock fans can enjoy too, a fearsome punk-funk techno-metal barrage



This folk-jazz duo's intriguing blend of spring-loaded double-time mythms of ungle music. Tracey Thom's calmly focused delivery uses the dry, strangely



Return Of The Mack

Leicester's own leatherclad lothario proved just as able with the seductive sounds of swingbeat and G-Funk as any of the American originators. Lots of sex and drugs, but mercifully



(What's The Story)

(Creation) Leavening the ringing guitar-rock of their debut with pensive ballads, Oasis pull out all the stops this time round. Throughout, it's Noel Gallagher's way with a tune - anybody' tune - which remains



Pop's favourite man of the people, Jarvis Cocker on top form, rendering the myriad discomforts of desire with unflinching but droll gaze, and cheerleading through the revenge-ofthe nerds singles Common People" and



The Bends

Like U2 and Nirvana before them. Radiohead manage to articulate the most heartfelt, abject disaffection in the most uplifting manner. Oxford's finest has a huge US following despite barbed English



Part of the resurgent Welsh rock scene that also includes the Manic Street Preachers Super Furry Animals make daft new music out of whimsical old styles, on songs about alien abduction, drug dealers and computer



Maxinguaye

Dark and hallucinatory. this is the keystone work of "trip-hop" music, in which the raps and sample collages of hip-hop are slowed down and stretched out to supply a languid menace that of black disaffection



Routes Out Of The

In jungle music, the programmed snare-drum rattles along at twice the speed of the bass, a sonic relationship affording an unusual variety of approaches. This compilation covers the lot.

From indie labels via big business to fame

So, it's official: Oasis are, apparently, more popular than the Beatles - and presumably, by extension, even more popular than Jesus.

According to a survey in Mu-sic Week, the Gallagher brothers are now more widely loved by all sectors of the British record-buying public, beating the Fab Four into second place in the Ali-Time Favourite Top Ten. Of course, it's only a poll, and thus best taken with a pinch or two of salt, but still, there it is, in black and white: more popular than the Beatles

Even those who spend their days caressed by the lightorchestral baim of Classic FM, find endless fascination in the slow trickle of talk on Radio 4 or turn to old Motown compilations and that worn-out copy of Dire Straits' Brothers In Arms, give Oasis the vote.

The Music Week survey has the Gallagher brothers not only. Ficlear favourites among the under-25s, but second favourites (after The Beatles) among the - to 45-year-olds, too.

-::2 35 di An-

5<u>6</u>

Ironically, it is the very fragmentation of pop during the 1980s which led many to give up on it (remember all those New Romantics flouncing around in During that decade, the mu-

sic business became more a case of business than music, with the marketplace led to mainstream for guitars, harmonies and major multi-national corpora- pop acts experiencing a shorttions seeking to increase their market share by absorbing smaller labels like Virgin and Chrysalis, often at absurdly inflated valuations. By 1994, six sales returns from record shops huge companies - Sony, Thorn EMI, Time Warner, Bertelsmann Music Group, Polygram and MCA Matsushita - con-

For those who have lost the script since the

Fab Four, an exploration of the music that makes the charts, and 10 albums which

> define the current trends

trolled the worldwide distribution and marketing of virtually all pop music.

imposition of cost-cutting cor-

The immediate effect was the

porate strategies on a business which traditionally operates by instinct. The result was that the in-house talent-spotters - the A&R men - lost out to the accountants. As a counterbalance, the independent sector which sprang up during the punk boom of the late Seventies took over most of the talent-spotting duties: all the big acts of the last ten years, from REM to Nirvana, and Pulp to Oasis, cut their teeth on small indie labels before being swalmummy's clothing or obscure lowed up by the multi-nationrap music) that is responsible for als - either directly, like REM,

quired, like Oasis. This fragmentation of the er shelf-life than before, and the fringes becoming a feverish blur of activity. At the same time, the computerisation of means that the charts are less open to hype. They now reflect more accurately the true state of sales, with albums less likemonths on end, and a much faster turnover of hit product in areas previously viewed as marginal, such as rap and rave mu-

Ultimately, the mainstream. s signified by the old Radio One/Top Of The Pops consensus, all but dissolved a couple of years ago, leaving a plethora of sub-genres - rap, indie, metal, swingbeat, jungle, Britpop, and any number of house/techno variations – forming a tapestry of styles and tex-

Accordingly, the BBC's coverage was forced to change course to reflect the new breadth of popular music - controversially at first, when Radio One started to lose listeners at an alarming rate, though it's undeniable that, like the charts, it now reflects more accurately the genuine spread of musical tastes in Britain, with individual shows servicing the needs of rap, indie and techno fans, and a broader, allencompassing playlist.

For many older listeners. though, this was the end of the road: they simply couldn't keep up with the dizzying variety of modern pop, and settled instead on the comforting familiarity of the "Gold" stations' bland Sixtles-oriented programming.

For some, it is a path of no old baby-boomer allegiances still linger, not least an affinity memorable tunes, which is why Oasis are so immensely popular even amongst mums and dads. With songs drawing freely on former pop glories, they're simply the easiest straw to clutch at, the most hummable option available in the great wide, baffling world of modern British pop.



Photomontage: Jonathan Anstee

A question of black and white influences

then? Some would say Blur's more baroque, vaudevillean arrangements are more closely reflective of the late-period Beatles style, but there's no denying that when it comes to writing brilliantly simple pop songs, Noel Gallagher has Da-

mon Albam beaten hands down when we respond to an Oasis every time, writes Andy Gill. Like John and Paul, Noel knows the worth of a good of the original song which inhook, though he doesn't have anything like their reserves of originality and inspiration, pre-

Rock of ages: Oasis have won the right to stand alongside The Beatles as all-time greats of pop

song, we're usually responding at least in part to our memory spired it, which was never the case with the Beatles.

There's also the vexed quesferring to plunder his hooks tion of influences: The Beatles from pop's memory-banks: were primarily influenced by

"whitening" of black music which proved such a revolutionary breakthrough in the Sixties, opening the door for

which helped bulk out their first fluence, which may account for few albums; indeed, it was their their rather statuesque stage performances - they prefer the likes of Paul Weller and The Stone Roses, secondhand influences whose own grasp of such as the Stones and Yard- black music traditions is, to birds. Oasis, by comparison, put it mildly heavily filtered.

New boom in cable repeats threatened by Equity vote

MATHEW HORSMAN MEDIA EDITOR

A controversial new pay deal could open the fledging cable and satellite markets to a tidal wave of vintage BBC and ITV repeats, depending on the outcome of a postal ballot being conducted among members of Actors Equity this week. For the first time, favourites such as Howard's Way or Trainer could find their way onto sub-

ITV and generating fresh funds for members of the closedshop union of actors.

But vocal opposition by a hand-ful of Equity board members could swing sentiment against the deal, according to union insiders. Character actress Miriam Margolyes last week resigned over the issue. Four other board members, including Tony Booth, star of Til

tract to members, compared to

27 in favour.
If approved, the deal will give starring actors 17 per cent of gross income from any programme sale, rather than the traditional "residual payment" — a fixed percentage of their original remuneration — which will continue to be used for repeats on terrestrial TV. Each actor's share of the gross income

set at £50.

According to both the BBC and ITV. the residual model has made it nearly impossible to sell programming to secondary markets at an economic rate. "The residual can sometimes be more than the market price for programmes sold to cable and satellite," said a BBC insider. This is particularly true of programmes featuring a large cast.

scription channels, providing Death Do Us Part' voted would be proportional to their If all actors receive a fixed per-channel's commercial success, jecting the residual arrange-business of preventing the work extra revenue for the BBC and against recommending the con-original fee, with the minimum centage of their original remuexceed what the programme rights are worth in the secondary market," James Lancaster, rights negotiator at BBC Worldwide, the BBC's com-

mercial arm, said. The BBC has already had trou-Gold service, which features repeats from the BBC and Thames libraries, despite the

neration, the total can "far current situation makes programme sales to UK cable and satellite channel's uneconomic. There is no doubt that a yes vote for royalty payments is in the bers, UK viewers and British broadcasters."

ble making money on its UK Ms Margolyes and her colleagues accuse Equity of abandoning the best interests of its members. They claim that re-

artists receive from the secondary market in the future, and puts at risk the system that protects artists from exploitation. when we had just four channels. and we knew where we stood and what we would receive, a spokesman for Equity said. "But this is a forward-looking deal. We should not be in the

of our members from being broadcast widely on cable and satellite."

The result of nearly two years' negotiation, the deal is similar "Some of our members look to the arrangements already back and say: wasn't it nice used by the BBC in its overseas markets, which generate about £17m a year for Equity members. The results of the ballot should be announced on to July. Gambon's Broadway ban, arts news, page 20

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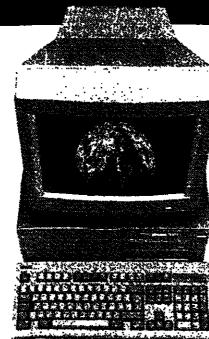
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TALK DIRECT TO THE NUMBER ONE.

Bleak outlook: Commission for Racial Equality reveals how conflict in the classroom leads to a life of crime and alienation



Tough lessons for young blacks

Yesterday, Brixton looked at its best. The sun shone, multi-cul-tural murals glistened on the walls, children played on the swings and even a traffic warden smiled as he pounded

Days like this are to be chershed, for many of the area's young black people feel Brixion's image casts a cloud over them - a bleak picture of schools running out of control and friends being drawn into a life of crime. At best, it is difficult for them to share anything other than mixed feelings for their south London home.

Kelly O'Liaya, 18, is lucky enough to have completed her of despair that prevails. "I can

That's maybe when they choose to go down a different path, like crime. It's just not something I chose, because I suppose I was scared of getting caught. But people's attitude is unfair, there are as many people round here doing good things."
The Commission for Racial

Equality says Brixton is merely a microcosm - warning yesterday that Britain's black youth face alienation as they are driven towards crime and antisocial behaviour.

Figures show that Afro-Caribbean children are four or five times more likely to be thrown out of school than their white counterparts and unemployment among the young in some ethnic minorities runs three times higher. Herman Ouseley, the CRE chairman, said that school expulsions, in particular, "were forcing children onto the streets into conflict with the police".

Mr Ouseley said it was the sense of alienation which triggered "skirmishes" in parts of the country last summer. Bradford and Brixton came close to giving us a glimpse of the social unrest none of us wants. It is time to recognise the need to invest in young people . so that they can reach their full potential, rather than finance their custodial arrangements in later life."

More positively, the CRE's annual report for 1995 revealed tribution made by ethnic mi-norities was gradually being recognised by an increase in the

'We are able to draw sume comfort from the knowledge that race relations in Britain during 1995 were as good if not better than apywhere else in Europe," said Mr Ouseley. But while ethnic minorities wanted to be treated equally and fairly, be pruperly educated and given in the comment. This was sent the same en jobs on merit, this was still

not the experience of many. In Brixton, they could only echo Mr Ouseley's sentiments Many former pupils claim the schools have been sinking for some time, leaving those left without qualifications to face a desperate struggle for work. Peter Johnson, 29, an unem.

ployed decorator said: "They just get the second-rate teach. ers who have been rejected from the good schools and then sent to the ghettes. The kids get no discipline, and instead of ny. ing to teach them, they just espel them. Then you're heading for disaster." Youth worker Lee Parker

agreed: "As soon as you take them out of the education system at an early age the only alternative is crime, and petty criminals become hardened criminals. This is a wake-up call for the Government to do something about our kids, and that the number of reported for schools to start taking the racial discrimination complaints problem seriously."

Father accused of killing three infant children

A father killed his three babies into Eleisha's death concluded by strangling and smothering it was a case of sudden infant them, a court was told yester-

Simon Smith's apparently healthy children - daughters Lauren, three months, and Eleisha. 10 months, and his six-month-old son Jamie - died suddenly, Stafford Crown Court was told. On each occasion he couple's next door neighbour had spent time alone with them before finding them dead, it was

The deaths of Eleisha, in April 1993, were put down to sudden infant death syndrome, or cot death. It was only after the examination in November 1994 into Lauren's death, which showed she died from asphyxia, that Mr Smith, 26, was arrested. He denies three charges of murder but in police interviews he admitted suffocating Lauren until she died, the court

John Goldring QC, for the prosecution, described how Eleisha had been taken to Stafford District General hospital the week before her death after she had apparently suddenly stopped breathing, but nothing amiss could be found.

The following week she again collapsed during the night at the house in Stafford, which Smith shared with the child's mother, Tracy Hall. Smith had been the last person to see her, changing her nappy to stop her crying. The following morning he found her dead in her bedroom. A post mortem examination

death syndrome.

In September 1992, Ms Hall had a second child. Jamie, again by Mr Smith. Jamie was found dead in his hed the following April. Two days before a health visitor had found him in perfectly good health.

On the night of the death the had been baby-sitting and put Jamie to bed in his own home shortly before lam. Soon afterwards, Mr Smith returned December 1989, and Jamie in home, drunk after a party. see the child alive. Minutes after coming home Mr Smith knocked hysterically on a neighbour's door with Jamie's dead body in his hands. "Why me? Why me? I tried everything I could," he shouted. Again a post mortem examination found a

> In July 1994, the third child. Lauren, was born. Her mother was Rachel Playfair, Mr Smith's new girlfriend. When Lauren was just three months old Mr Smith spent a day in Stafford shopping with her. Minutes after he returned home he claims he found the child dead on a sofa. Again she had apparently stopped breathing.

> But after first denying the killing he later admitted to po-lice he had smothered the child in the back seat of his car to stop her crying. This time a post mortem examination found the cause of death was asphyxia, the court was told.

The trial resumes today.

Hospitals braced for 'toughest year'

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Waiting times are likely to lengthen and new develop-ments face postponement as the NHS faces its toughest year fi-nancially since the NHS reforms came in, health authorities and

trusts warned yesterday. A survey undertaken by the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts (Nahat) shows that at least a quarter of trusts will only break even by cut-ting services and increasing waiting times for non-urgent sions. At least one in five reckon they are unlikely to break even, and many report that rising demand for emergency services is eating into funds for

waiting-list procedures.
"Generally acute trusts report that the rise in emergency admissions will have an effect on elective services, so that in-patient waiting times will either begin to increase or that planned ductions will not be achieved."

ities and trusts shows. One trust has calculated that for some conditions waiting times will escalate from 10 to 18 months.

Measures which could ease the pressures - for example merging duplicate services - are being held up by political sen-stivity in the run-up to the gen-eral election, authorities report.

"It is no secret that this is the toughest year financially since the NHS reforms came in. Philip Hunt, director of Nahat said. We have 1.1 per cent real growth and that isn't enough. Ideally, we need 3 per cent and we can manage on 2 per cent. but 1.1 per cent is real trouble." The picture will vary locally, Nahat believes, and some de-

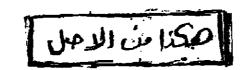
velopments in services will still take place. But "very difficult choices are having to be made", Mr Hunt said. "Whilst waiting times will fall or remain on an even keel in many places, in some parts of the country they

"If British Airways and American Airlines are not allowed to indulge in all manner of (legal) anti-competitive practice, then there is not much point in them getting into bed together in the first place."

THE ECONOMIST



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Father accus

of killing th

infant child

Shephard to bring in English grammar test for 14-year-olds

misspellings are:

Definately

Seperate

Parratin

Equelly

Liesure'.

Omestra

Acommodation

Education Editor

A new grammar test for 14-yearolds was announced by Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, yesterday as she continued her campaign

The review of English tests. which will anger teachers, comes after research from Southampton University showed that pupils were learning more grammar in foreign language lessons than in EngLabour yesterday accused Mis Shephard of making the announcement to try to divert attention from the defeat in the House of Lords late on Monday of plans for a nation-wide usery voucher scheme.

Mrs Shephard had accepted to placate the Conservative recommendations from gov-right-wingers. national tests in English, maths and science, should face an additional exam in grammar, spelling and punctuation.

At present, English consists of two papers, a comprehension and essay and a Shakespeare should be cut back, has so far

paigned against the Shakeeare paper, maintaining that Shakespeare should be tested by coursework done in class and not by a timed written test.

Observers believe Mrs Shephard's decision on grammar may be a concession to rightwingers to pave the way for an year-olds, who must all take announcement later this year that Shakespeare will be tested differently. Coursework assessment of Shakespeare is at present being trialled. However, the Prime Minister, who insisted that GCSE coursework

Mistakes made by pupils Some of the most common Among the most common

grammatical errors are: She come to my house was scared so I run away We was going to the shops threw it out the window The government think they can do what they like would of done it if I could of Getting off of the bus Blood is thickerer than water

resisted attempts to test Shakespeare in such a way. The new test, which could be in the form of an unstructured piece of prose into which pupils had to insert grammar, spelling and punctuation, could not be language works. This may seem teaching them about writing introduced until the year after a remarkably obvious message styles while foreign Linguage next but the weight given to spelling, punctuation and grammar could be increased from

next year. Mrs Shephard said she was asking the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority to review English tests "to ensure that they reflect the emphasis the curriculum puts on correct English". She added: "If children are to learn to express themselves clearly and effectively and make full use of our wonderful language, they need

but it is one thatsadly was lost by the trendy teaching of the Sixties and Seventies."

Anne Barnes, general secretary of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said that English teachers would he furious if such a test were introduced. The teachers arene that grammar should be tested through writing, and not through a separate test.

The Southampton report found that English teachers tended to concentrate on mcreasing pupils' creativity and

teachers taught grammar in a more formal way

David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, said: Gillian Shephard is clearly beleaguered on all sides. Her announcement today comes several weeks after I made a similar back-to-basics speech and it is surely no coincidence that it comes on the day when the Lords have decided that a pilot scheme for nursery vouchers should properly evaluated before it becomes a national scheme." Vouchers plan, page 6

Cash secure for 2000 exhibition at Greenwich

CHRIS BLACKHURST Westminster Correspondent

The planned Millennium Exhibition to mark the start of the 21st century will definitely take place at Greenwich in southeast London, it was announced last night. After months of doubt and controversy about the funding of the £500m exhibition, Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for National Heritage, announced that the event's future was assured.

"The exhibition at Greenwich will go ahead and the country can look forward to a celebration of which it can be very proud indeed," she said yesterday. "On the basis of the substantial support received from the private sector, we are happy for work on the exhibition at Greenwich to continue."

Mrs Bottomley, who is chairman of the Millennium Commission, which met yesterday afternoon, would not reveal how much money had been received in sponsorship.

Sir Peter Levene, the businessman and government adviser, told the Millennium Commission that he was now confident of securing enough

event. After weeks of behindthe-scenes arm twisting in Whitehall, companies have been persuaded to drop their initial reluctance and offer support.

While the target figure of £144m had still to be met, Sir Peter told the commission he felt confident it would come once work on the site had started. Sponsors had been invited to

take a pavilion for £12m each. So far, only British Airways, British Telecom and the City of London Corporation have publicly pledged their support. Others thought to be interested include GEC, British Aerospace, Amec, BAA and London Electricity.

Sir Peter's report to the commission followed a recent emergency meeting between Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and captains of industry called after business reluctance became apparent. Under the original scheme, the commission would put up £200m from National Lottery receipts, the private sector would find £144m, and gate receipts and licensing deals would account for the remaining £156m.

Without sufficient private backing, ministers were contemplating scaling down the event or scrapping it. At the

ing for the exhibition should be seen not as a commercial deci-

sion but as an act of faith. MPs for Birmingham, which lost out to Greenwich, have reacted furiously to claims that some of those at the meeting may have gone away believing they would receive peerages in return for their cash. In an early day motion tabled in the Commons yesterday, Labour MPs Ken Pur-chase (Wolverhampton North-East) and John Spellar (Warley West) called on the Government to ensure it was made clear that sole prerogative of the Queen".

Mr Spellar said: "Mr Heseltine should make very clear where he stands on this. If he didn't mean to give that impression at the meeting, then he should make it clear."

He warned companies to think twice before committing cash to Greenwich: "A company that trades on a national basis, like BT, should be thinking very carefully about whether it should be stabbing Birmingham in the back to bail out a bid which is obviously not viable.". Mr Heseltine declined to

to be taught how the English SMOKING FIRST

Overseas lottery aid 'too low'

REBECCA FOWLER

The £25m given by the National Lottery Charities Board to overseas projects has been criticised as being too low by British aid groups working in the Third World.

Charities, including the Red Cross, Oxfam and Action Aid, are concerned that the figure is only a fraction of the board's overall £2bn budget and does not reflect the public's commitment to overseas charitable work - which attracts 15 per cent of all donations.

However, the board which came under fire from the Prime Minister last week for supporting charities that work with

ber, said: "£25m will not solve relief campaigns, which do not the world's problems, but if we ensure it is used effectively to tackle long term solutions we believe it can make a consider-

able impact." The money, which will be distributed among long-term projects in Asia, Africa, South and Central America and the Caribbean, may be revised next year, according to the board.

But Anna Feuchtwang, of Oxfam, said: "They've got a difficult balancing act, but what-ever way you look at it, it's a very small amount. It should reflect public support for overseas aid." The charities defended the decision to send lottery money overseas against criticisms that

Tessa Baring, a board mem- term projects, such as disaster traditionally attract public do nations.

Dominic Byrne, for Action Aid, said: "We believe the board should have announced a grant programme of at least £50m in

line with public support." Following criticisms of the allocation of grants, Tim Hornsby, the board's chief executive, will send a full report to the Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, this week, explaining how decisions were taken to fund a total of nine projects which included work with prostitutes, gay men and lesbians

Mr Hornsby said: "We try to assess grants successfully, as

gays, lesbians and prostitutes, we are legally obliged to do, and choose on merit." Dressed for the races: Setting off from Waterloo station in London for Royal Ascot yesterday, on the opening of defended the amount yesterday and denied it should be doubled. it should be concentrated in the four-day meeting at the Berkshire racecourse Ascot reports, pages 10 and 11 Britain. It will benefit longer Countryside 'under threat from advertising clutter'

WILL BENNETT

For decades the British countryside has had a more tranquil air than the rural areas of France or the United States, But conservation groups say that Government proposals to relax controls on advertising are

After crossing the Channel the difference is immediately

apparent. French roadsides are drinks, cars, tyres and in recent years the hypermarkets so beloved by the British.

In the US, main routes across the heart of the continent are disfigured by billboards pro-claiming the virtnes of Coca Cola, Marlboro, and the like. Until now more than half of Britain has been protected from

such visual intrusion by being lined with advertisements for declared "Areas of Special Con-drinks, cars, tyres and in recent trol of Advertisements" where poster hoardings are banned and other advertisements are strictly regulated. The Government is now planning to relax these controls by abolishing the special areas and allowing potential advertisers to apply to local authorities for permission to erect hoardings.

of Rural England (CPRE) and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW), which have written to the Government

urging it to drop the proposals. Neil Sinden, national plan-ning campaigner for CPRE. said that the present controls are "one of the great achieve-

THE UNITED FRIENDLY MARKETING GROUP IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY FOR LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSIONS AND UNIT TRUST BUSINESS.
UNITED FRIENDLY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS IS ALSO REGULATED BY IMBO IN THE CONDUCT OF INVESTMENT BUSINESS.

The move has enraged conservation organisations such as the Campaign for the Protection proposals reveal an astonishing about poster hoardings being all the qualities that make the countryside so special."

A spokesman for the Dedisregard for the great public support for strict control over advertising. One of CPRE's earliest successes was the removal of unsightly advertisements in rural areas. We believe it opens the door to the piece-

right in rural areas."

Merfyn Williams, director of CPRW, said: "In the relatively small-scale landscapes that characterise rural Wales any intrusion has a serious impact. The uncluttered appearance of meal introduction of advertis- rural areas is a crucial compo-

A spokesman for the De-

partment of the Environment said: "The present extra controls are largely obsolete and alternative controls are available to local authorities. The proposals will not result in a proliferation of posters in the countryside because local authorities have sufing. The proposals are the thin nent of people's enjoyment of ficient powers to prevent this."

Sex-swap woman jailed for Harrods

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

A transsexual who threatened to plague Harrods with mice and fleas in a £5m blackmail plot was jailed for eight years yesterday. Lydie Banot, 41, said she

threat

would release the rodents in the store's famous food hall, spread poison in its restaurants and place fleas in the clothes department, unless she was paid millions of pounds.

She had formed a grudge

against the Knightsbridge store after receiving electrolysis treatment to remove facial hair at the store which she claimed left her face scarred, the Old Bailey was told. She was said to have become embittered after the initial failure of a sex-change operation in 1993.

The court was told that Banot - born Mario Kerr - began her blackmail attempt in November last year by sending a note to Harrods' owner. Mohamed al-Fayed, asking for £5m to be placed in a Swiss bank account. It was followed by two further demands for £2m each.

The police, who were brought in to run an undercover operation, at first thought they were dealing with a so-phisticated blackmail campaign. A series of telephone calls and meetings were set up after she claimed she was being used as a go-between for an underworld team made up of former police officers, Customs and Excise officers and former soldiers who were blackmailing stores across the country. During negotiations. Banot reduced her demand for £5m to £50,000.

The plot was foiled and Banot arrested after a friend, Richard Killen, 47, told the security officer that she was acting on her own. Mr Killen was later charged with two offences of blackmail but these were dropped in court yesterday.

Banot, of Walthamstow, east London, pleaded guilty to three charges of blackmail.

Shani Barnes, for the defence, said the blackmail attempt had been "a cry for help" She was suffering from a rare condition called gender identity disorder and had no intention of carrying out the threats.

Passing sentence, Judge Charles Forrester said: "You made a sustained and sophisticated attempt to obtain money from Harrods.

"It must not be forgotten that Harrods was not to know who was behind this."

After the case, Mr Killen, of Finsbury Park, north London,

said: "This woman needs help not punishment. When I knew what was going on, I contacted Harrods and told them there was no plot and she had mental problems. For my trouble, I was thrown in prison for eight weeks and missed Christmas with my children."

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Vouchers plan: Buoyed by Lords defeat Blunkett threatens to enlist support of dissident Tories for alternative scheme

Shephard: 4-year-old pupils to get places

Education Correspondent

The introduction of nursery vouchers will not be derailed by a defeat in the House of Lords, ministers said yesterday. Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education, promised to provide places for all four-year-olds next year despite calls for a de-

lay from the Upper House. Meanwhile, Labour sought to capitalise on the Government's embarrassment over the issue by calling for all-party support for an alternative scheme and offering to put aside party considerations to find a solution.

David Blunkett, the party's education spokesman, warned that if Mrs Shephard did not agree to co-operate with Labour it would do its best to rally Tory dissidents to defeat the Government over the issue. £205m cost of the voucher

On Monday night peers vot-ed to delay the national implementation of the scheme until the results of a year's pilot examendment could mean the there will be chaos," he said.

collapse of plans for £1,100 vouchers for the parents of all four-year-olds. The scheme is due to be brought in nation-wide in April 1997 and any post-ponement would almost certainly delay it until after the general election. Yesterday, Mrs Shephard

said the Government intended to stick to its original timetable, suggesting that it will try to overturn the Lords' decision when the vouchers Bill returns to the Commons. "While we naturally take careful note of their Lordships' views ... the scheme is firmly set on course for nation-wide implementation. Delaying its introduction would prevent over half a million children and their parents from enjoying the benefits of a whole year's schooling," she said.

scheme to be put instead into projects involving public, private voluntary nursery providers. "We want to redisiribute the money they are alknown. In effect, the Labour ready providing. Otherwise

Mr Blunkett called for the



He added that dissident Tories who had already lost favour with the Government over other issues might join with Labour to defeat the voucher

protested that the plans would have a detrimental effect on already generous local nursery provision. A pilot scheme in Wandsworth, Kensington and Cheisea. Westminster and Norscheme. Some Conservative ar-eas, such as Solihull, have Chelsea, Westminster and Nor-folk has shown that many of the

children whose parents have received vouchers end up in the reception classes of nursery schools. Extra places had to be provided to meet the demand created by the programme.

rious assaults, theft and criminal

damage under £5,000. In mur-

der and manslaughter cases it

is understood that the judicia-

hailed the Lords' decision as a victory for common sense, some under-fives' groups were disappointed Margaret Lochrie, chief executive of the Pre-School Learning Alliance, which over-While opposition politicians sees play groups, said it helped

may be considered part of the

evidence and challenged in

court. Parents will also be

barred from making statements

on behalf of their children for

similar reasons.

voucher scheme is not perfect. However, for the first time funding will be available ... for all types of provision, and this is already long overdue," she said.

. In like in san Labour .. pledges facts and figures clean-up

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Labour would set up an independent arm's-length National Statistical Service to restore public faith in official statistics. Jack Straw, the party's home affairs spokesman, said yesterday.

The new body would operate on a similar basis to the National Audit Office, reporting, as the NAO does, principally to a committee of the House of Commons. Its head would be appointed jointly by the Prime Minister and the chairman of the committee, Mr Straw said. We have to have facts which

the public can trust," he told a London conference organised by the think-tank Demos. "Democratic debate is disabled without them."

Despite the recent creation of the new Office for National Statistics and a new code of practice governing ministers' relations with it, "this does not go far enough". Mr Straw said.

The Government's endless redefinition of the unemployment count, disputes over the validity of National Health Service statistics and lack of data in other areas show there are insufficient safeguards against the temptation of politicians to manipulate public information to best effect, he said.

"The core of the problem goes back to the 1980 Rayner scrutiny of government which established the doctrine that the needs of government alone should determine the work of the government statistical service ... Instead, the purpose should be of public interest." Mr Straw's announcement

came as a leading academic warned that the Civil Service had "lost its policy skills" in its recent managerial revolution.

"We now seem to experience more public policy disasters than ever before," Sue Richards, Professor of Public Management at the University of Birmingham, told a conference in London on the future of the Civil Service.

The beef crisis, the poll tax, the arms-to-Iraq affair and the creation of the Child Support Agency were just some of the

less able to say to a minister

'Should we be doing this at all?'.

Instead, it is all about delivery".

formalworks recent examples, she said. The new "can do" approach had brought improvements in delivery and management, she said. But it had lost the policy skills, "including the skill of say-ing 'no can do". In the Home Office, experience of past faillonger valued as policies were changed for political reasons. And "the Civil Service seems

Vulnerable victims 'excluded from support scheme' Under the scheme, only victims of certain crimes will be include stalking, racial harass-ment, domestic violence, less se-Victim Support is concerned cluded are domestic burglary victim's families because they

asked if they wish to give state-

ments and to receive further in-

formation about their case.

Many less serious offences will

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

A Home Office scheme aimed at giving victims of crime a say in the justice system came under attack yesterday for failing to address many of the most serious offences, including murder, manslaughter, domestic violence, and most assaults.

Under the initiative some victims will be given the chance to make a statement explaining how the experience of crime has impacted on their lives. This will be taken into account by police. prosecutors and judges when making key decisions, although victims will not be given any new powers. Another development is the establishment of so-called "one-stop shops" in which every a specific police crime desk which will provide information on the progress of a case, including details on whether charges are dropped or reduced and the date of the trial.

But yesterday's announce-ment, by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, of the updatby criticism from the charity most closely responsible for helping people who have suf-

ed Victims' Charter was marred

ANTHONY BEVINS Employers will be given access to a job applicant's criminal record under far-reaching plans to be unveiled in a White Paper by Michael Howard, the The White Paper will also bers of the public the right to

COLIN BROWN and

criminal records. Access to criminal records will be limited to certain firms, such as security companies, where the Home Office believes it could

their own criminal record to show prospective employers that they have a "clean sheet". There is also likely to be an

that many serious crimes will not be included in the year-long pilot projects which begin in August and operate in the Metropolitan. Merseyside, Lanca-shire, Hampshire, Sussex and Bedfordshire police areas.

Firms to get access to applicant's criminal record lobby over the proposal to set up an agency to deal with the

> help to combat crime. The records will be a brief summary of the files held on peothe crimes committed. But ministers believe the summary will be helpful to employers in ensuring that they do not put criminals into positions of trust where

be risk. The move follows con- out by the Commons library, ances. On this basis, the licern about security firms, but it falls short of demands led by Ian McCartney, a Labour spokesman on employment, who has faced personal threats for his calls for a tough regulatory framework to be introduced.

■ The most serious repeat burglars will not start serving for a sentences third offence until the end of 2000 at the earliest. Mr Howard was challenged last night by Jack Straw, Labour's spokesman on home affairs, to confirm research carried three separate court appear-

which says that in some cases hardcore burglars might not receive their "third strike" punishment until November 2003.

Writing to Mr Howard on the eve of today's Commons debate on sentencing policy, Mr Straw said: "The White Paper states that your proposal could be imthat the three qualifying convictions must all relate to offences committed after the new legislation has come into force, and that they must relate to

brary estimates that assuming average court delays and assuming that second and third offences were committed the day after completion of court proceedings, or [if a custodial sentence were passed] the day

start dates would apply...." December 2000, for people who had received two non-custodial sentences in a magistrates' court, through to November 2003 for burglars.

after release, then the following

racially motivated offences. He-Ien Reeves, director of Victim Support, said: "We are very concerned that some of the most vulnerable victims are being excluded from these plans to improve the information they receive and the opportunity to provide details about how crime has affected them. We believe no victim should be excluded." Nevertheless, Mr Howard predicted that the charter

grievous bodily harm, robbery

serious sexual assault, and

would form "a major contribution towards improving the treatment of victims". He said the new statements would help inform all the agencies involved in the criminal justice system. Today the Home Office will

the first possible date would be the Record, which contains proposals for a new vetting agency to check the criminal records of people applying to carry out voluntary and paid work which involves access to children.

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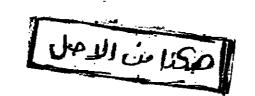
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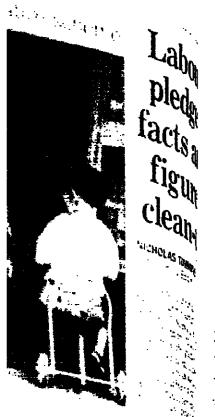
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RACargos Time



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Dunblane club run like Hitler Youth, says MP

The shadow Secretary of State boy missed one session - and for Scotland, George Robertson, yesterday told how he removed his young son from a boys' club run by Thomas Hamilton after becoming darmed at its "Hitler Youth"

Mr Robertson told the Cullen nquiry into the Dunblane masacre of 16 pupils and their teacher how Hamilton later confronted him to seek an explanation - and how he sent him packing. So worried were Mr Robertson and other Dunblane about 10 minutes. parents about Hamilton's activities that they sought to have them curbed. And there was "absolute despair" on their part when Hamilton managed to secure a ruling by the ombuds-man upholding his complaint about the council suspending his lettings, Mr Robertson said.

The MP for Hamilton, who lives in Dunblane and was giving evidence on the inquiry's 15th day, told how he raised his concern with the man who is now his chief political opponent, Michael Forsyth, the Secretary of State for Scotland and MP for Stirling, But Mr Forsyth's initial

response was one of caution. Mr Robertson told the inquiry how his son Malcohn, then aged 10, started attending one of Hamilton's clubs at Dunblane High School in 1983. But after

Hamilton wrote a letter to him seeking an explanation. Mr Robertson's wife's response was: "How dare you write to my son? He is in the cubs, he goes to school, and a swimming club and if he is absent, they don't

write to him, they write to me."
With another parent, Mr Robertson went to a club session to see what was happening there - and was struck by the "military" atmosphere they saw as they watched, unnoticed, for

"I was struck very quickly by the bizarre nature of what was happening inside the gymnasi-um. There were large numbers of small boys in shorts being bossed around by two to three middle-aged men swaggering around in a very military type of way - a bit like the Hitler Youth, there was certainly a military element in that." So alarmed was he and the

with a terrier-like quality." But he only met Hamilton two or

three times over the years.

The inquiry continues.

other father that they decided to withdraw their sons immediately. Hamilton came to Mr Robertson's house the next day wanting to know his reasons for withdrawing his son - but Mr Robertson said he did not have to give him reasons.

After that, Mr Robertson and some other parents raised their concern that a club could be run by someone with no apparent qualifications and no



Labour MP George Robertson (left) told Michael Forsyth (right) about his concerns over Thomas Hamilton (centre)

RAC urges 'fine' for roadworks

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

Cable and utility companies should pay up to £5,000 a day for digging up roads and caus-ing traffic congestion and delays, the RAC says.

The money could be used for improvements such as road and rail schemes, the RAC suggests in a discussion paper on funding transport. Under the 1991 Streetworks Act councils were given powers to impose penalties if contractors exceed the permitted timescale for streetworks, but the rules have

never been implemented. Edmund King, the RAC campaigns manager, said £5,000 a day was cheap for disruption in an urban area. He cited a recent example in central London where a cable company damaged gas mains in Rosebery Avenue and British Gas spent a month making the right part but then damaged a Thames Water included, rather than just near-by roads and junctions. sewer. "This caused delays in a large part of central London ... RAC, 14 Cockspur St It was a comedy of errors that don SW1Y 5BL, £5.

cost Londoners millions of

Recognising the limits on government spending, the RAC suggests two further ways of raising revenue for transport schemes. First, it suggests that a transport rate be levied on firms by a local authority, with the money being earmarked for specific transport projects.

The City of London Corporation has already put forward the idea of a voluntary extra rate in order to bring forward much needed improvements to the Tube and rail systems but so far has been stymied by opposition from the Treasury over the

The RAC also suggests that the concept of "planning gain", whereby developers contribute to the costs of local infrastructure, should be extended to ensure big transport schemes are included, rather than just nearfuture of transport in the UK, RAC, 14 Cockspur Street, Lon-

DAILY POEM

Cotton Country

By Tony Connor (for Larry Vonalt)

Over the disused railroad. the abandoned brick hotel and other desolations, the moon climbs in full splendour with Venus burning brightly on the aftermath peacockand-bleached-rose of March sunset.

There are gougings and rebuildings, querulously beautiful.

The town's bronze soldier looks down, pensive with old destruction, old victory and defeat.

Fine cars with resounding names are aimed at outer suburbs.

l walk 10 evening pleasures in dark bars, where sad women complain to one another of marriage and sourcd love, while men who seem to know them play slow pool in the hackground.

Tony Connor was born in 1930 in Lancashire and left school at 14. He worked as a textile designer in Manchester until 1960 and in 1962 published the first of seven collections, With Love Somehow, which precipitated a change of career to the academic teaching of English. Since 1971 he has been Professor of English at Wesleyan University, Connecticut. Anvil next week publish a new collection, Metamorphic Adventures (£8.95), from which this poem is taken.



Artful clean-up: Mannikins disposing of human figures cut from waste materials in Michael Landy's Scrapheap Services installation at the Chisenhale Gallery in Bethnal Green, east London, where it can be seen (Wednesdays to Sundays) until 28 July

Photograph: Peter Macdiammod

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Russian elections: President boosts his second-round chances by sacking defence minister and recruiting popular general

Grachev fired as Yeltsin buys Lebed support

PHIL REEVES

Boris Yeltsin moved swiftly to boost his re-election chances yesterday by firing his unpop-ular Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, and handing two top posts to the man of the moment, Alexander Lebed.

The speed of the President's manoeuvre, only two days after narrowly winning the election's first round, adds to suspicions that the Kremlin covertly sup-ported General Lebed's presidential campaign, in which he came third with a surprisingly high 11 million votes.

It was in the hope of netting those votes in the run-off that Mr Yeltsin yesterday appoint-ed the 46-year-old retired general, a middle-of-the-road nationalist, as secretary of the Security Council and national security adviser. The scalp of the hapless General Grachev is likely to have been one of General Lebed's demands, as the two men hate each other.

Mr Yeltsin was keen to dispel the impression that the appointments were campaign tactics, insisting that General Lebed would have a key role in military reform and fighting

appointment, it is a merger of two politicians, two programs," he said, standing next to Gen-eral Lebed in the Kremlin. Within hours of taking up the

ob, General Lebed was claiming credit for the first success in his drive to impose law and order, saying he had snuffed out an attempted coup within the military to resist General

"People close to the [former] Defence Minister attempted to form GKChP Number three," he said, referring by a Russian acronym to the groups that organised the August 1991 attempted putsch and the conflict between parliament and the Kremlin in 1993. "They raised a wave which

went through the Moscow military district and the airborne troops. Full loyalty was displayed and I know for sure that there will be no disturbances." Later, he toned down his claims, saying it had merely been an attempt to put pressure on the President.

Mr Lebed's appointment is a setback for Mr Yeltsin's challenger, the Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov. He came second with 31.96 per cent to Mr Yeltsin's 35.02, according to

Although it is unclear what proportion of the Lebed vote will support the President in the second round, his appointment makes it no easier for the Communists to expand their vote of about 24 million. Mr Zyuganov made no secret of his disappointment over the Yeltsin-Lebed pact.

General Lebed will have no truck with the Communists: "I faced two ideas: an old one which caused much bloodshed and a new one which is being carried out very poorly, but to which the future belongs. I choose the new idea." Yesterday's events look as it

they were cooked up some time

ago by Mr Yeltsin's campaign managers, after concluding that a strong performance by the general would damage the ul-tra-nationalist, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, and the Communists. In the closing days before Sunday's ballot, glossy pro-Lebed television advertisements, made by specialists with close ties with the Kremlin's

campaign, started to appear.

There was a lot of official pressure on the banks not to ve money to Grigory Yavlinksy [the leading liberal candidate], said Sergei Markov, a political analyst with



Dream team: A smiling Mr Yeltsin (right) announces General Lebed's appointment as head of the Security Council

the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "This did not apply to General Lebed." General Lebed has ensured

greater powers for his job as secretary of the Security Council. the main-policy making body

credited for having got rid of the hated General Grachev, who is widely blamed for the débacle of the Chechen war.

He also appears to be playing a leading role in choosing which overseas the military and the sacked minister's replace- acting Defence Minister.

the security services. He will be ment. Although General Boris Gromov, a strong Yeltsin ally, is tipped for the job, it may remain in the hands of General Mikhail Kolesnikov, 56, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, who was yesterday named

But his warm relationship with Mr Yeltsin may prove short-lived. He has been given the brief to wipe out corruption.
"I don't think he will follow the law." said Mr Markov. "He regards this as a real war against

ic right now among the matia, because they know he wants to use troops against them." This could lead to could be

a conflict between the general and the shadier characters who

bungling butcher who became a hate figure HELEN WOMACK that should have been spent on Yeltsin could have fired him strikes on Bosnia and the east-

Grachev: Blamed by public

Moscow

With the same confidence that one can describe vodka as Russia's favourite drink, Pavel Grachev is the country's most unpopular politician.

Tainted by allegations of corruption and largely responsible for the fiasco in Chechnya, the general, whose surname means rook, is loathed by the young and democratically-minded and by old Communists and the mil-

from his post as Defence Minister a dozen times over. But he waited for the moment when sacrificing him would have the maximum political effect. That moment came yesterday.

General Grachev must have known the axe was about to fall. "Pavel Sergeyevich understands the President's decision," a Kremlin spokesman said. Russian television suggested he might be sent to Brussels as representative to Nato. There, he itary alike. President Boris is known for having opposed air

ward expansion of the Western alliance. At home, he is seen as a bungler and a butcher. General Grachev was re-

garded by army colleagues as a mediocrity whose rise in 1992 to become Defence Minister was surprising. "He was one of the lads. We used to send him out for vodka," said one officer who served with him in Afghanistan. In his photo album he has a picture of Grachev, then a junior officer, loiling halfnaked under a tree.

But the Defence Minister became a hate figure following revelations of financial abuses while the army was pulling out of Germany, and the murder of one of the journalists who exposed the scandal.

Dimitri Kholodov, Moskovsky Komsomolets, had dug up so much dirt on how top officers enriched themselves by selling army supplies that a parliamentary enquity had been scheduled. General Grachev was accused of accepting a Mercedes bought from funds

housing returning Russian soldiers. Russians nicknamed the minister "Pasha [the diminutive form of Pavel Mercedes." But the enquiry never took

place. Kholodov was lured to a railway station by an anonymous phone call promising him a suitcase of documents. The case contained a bomb,

which killed him. General Grachev denied involvement but Kholodov's outraged editor pointed the finger of blame.

Thousands of Russians turned out for Kholodov's funerai. President Yeltsin was expected to sack General Grachev but did not. It was assumed he gave him a second chance because of his dog-like loyalty. Mr Yeltsin was indebted to the minister for having supported him when the President sent tanks against his opponents in the White House in 1993.

Soon the tanks were to roll reain, this time into Chechnya. General Grachev was among those who persuaded Mr ty to the Kremlin leader.

Yeltsin in December 1994 that force was the only way to deal with the separatist rebellion. "Give me a unit of paratroopers and we will sort out the Chechens in a couple of hours," General Grachev was reported to have boasted.

The war against the rebels has now been going on for 18 months, 30,000 civilians have been killed and the infrastructure of the region has been almost destroyed. Mr Grachev, indeed, has been only a liabili-

Paris tries new campus reforms | Rapists slip drugs into drinks

MARY DEJEVSKY

The French government yesterday announced a "rolling reform" of its much-criticised higher education sector, intended to reduce the drop-out and failure rate, improve access to higher education and make better use of funds.

The Education Minister. François Bayrou, set out the principles of the changes in a speech to students and politicians in the Sorbonne, in Paris. Among the reforms are pro-

posed improvements to the student grant to take greater account of individual and familv circumstances, attempts to match students and courses better and a restructuring of uni-

ployed PhDs and doctoral candidates.. However, no reforms will be introduced until the academic year 1997-98 at the earliest.

Any form of selection for higher education has been shelved. But more information is to be supplied to pupils about the failure rate on courses and employment prospects, in the hope that their choice of subjects and universities will be better informed.

Student numbers in France have almost doubled over the past decade, with the only formal qualification required for a university place being the Baccalauréat, an approximate student overcrowding and

even at the Sorbonne. The drop-out rate has risen to 20 per cent in the first year, and the failure rate after four or five vears approaches 50 per cent in some technological disciplines.

Tackling the education system has been a political hot potato for French governments. In the past five years alone, four attempts at reform - the introduction of selection for higher education, changes in the grant system, provision for private schools and a further attempt at higher-education reform - have been abandoned after resistance by students and teachers.

Last autumn, protests against

versity appointments and the equivalent to A-levels. Univer- shortages of teachers and faacademic career ladder to re- sity facilities are overcrowded cilities were halted only when duce the number of unem- and often poorly maintained. Mr Bayrou was given more funds to fill empty posts, im-prove libraries and laboratories and set up a system of special envoys to all universities to examine the problems.

Jacques Chirac set the overhaul of French education as a priority for his presidency more than a year ago. He even had the constitution amended to provide for a promised referendum on the subject. By the first anniversary of his presidency last month, however, neither the reform nor the referendum had appeared, and Mr Chirac was driven to criticise Mr Bayrou by name for the apparent slowness with which his ministry was moving.

They are being dubbed the Mickey Finns of the Nineties. New synthetic drugs slipped into women's drinks are blamed for at least a dozen rapes in the Miami area.

The drugs, said to be coming illegally from South America. are available on Mismi's trendy South Beach district for between \$2 and \$5 a pill, police say. Not only do they remove the consumer's inhibitions when mixed with alcohol but they cause short-term amnesia, making arrests rare.

Concerned by abuse of their product, the manufacturer of one of the drugs, Hoffman-La Roche, says it will launch a tele-

vision and radio campaign in hicle's glove compartment and incapacitated within minutes, Florida aimed at women and charged two men with rape. with the slogan "When you drink, watch it!" The adverts wil warn women not to leave their drinks unattended while they

dance or go to the toilet. On 22 February this year, a 30-year-old woman was raped by two men in a car in the car park of a night club in the Florida town of Boca Raton. Sheriff's deputies said that the woman could remember little but blood tests revealed she had ingested GHB (gamma hydroxy butyrate), a synthetic weight-loss

After a night club employee came forward as a witness and identified the car, police found plastic bottles of GHB in the ve-

Tale of brutality sours life in the Big Apple

drug that can cause memory

The best-known of the new Mickev Finns, however, is Ro hypnol, a strong sleeping tablet produced by Hoffman-La Roche, according to Florida police.

Described by local media as the "hot new drug on the night-club circuit on South Beach", it has been illegal in the US since March but is said to be widely available in other countries. South American dealers call the tablets "roofies" or "roach-

es" and say they are many times stronger than Valium.

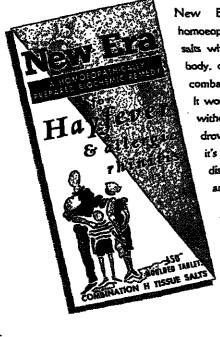
Florida prosecutors are pressing to define the drug legally as "dangerous" and of no medical benefit. They describe how "spiked" drinks had left victims

leaving them unable to fight off their attackers and hardly able to remember wi The drinks had shown no strange taste or colour, all said.

Hoffman-La Roche, while launching the campaign to prevent Rohypnol's abuse, insists it is of benefit to many people with insomnia. About a million people worldwide are said to take the drug legally, through prescriptions, to help treat

On Monday, five rape victims appeared before the Attorney-General of Florida, Bob Butterworth, at a hearing to help him decide how to categorise Rohypnol. All had allegedly been slipped the drug before

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A natural remedy for hayfeve

Few places come more hard-

boiled about violent crime than New York. Even today, when the New York Police Department (NYPD) is being feted for bringing down crime rates steeply, a day rarely passes when a bullet, knife or metal bar does not rob the life from at least one of its citizens. Some of the murders make it

into the newspapers - especially if the victim is a police officer, a child or white - but many do not. But once in a while, some evil is committed that strikes this city deep in its gut. And, boy, does it then pay attention.

With a spree of brutal attacks against four women over eight days this month, John Royster found Gotham City's weak spot. As the story unfolded each day in the tabloids and on the television news, the story of Royster hurt because it had not just happened in New York but because it was also so obviously of New York

He struck first in Central Park. He seized a lone woman in the afternoon as she walked a path close to a children's playground, beat her head against a rock and sexually assaulted her. The 32-year-old vic-tim, whose name has been withheld by police, is still in hospital in a deep coma.

The next day, he smashed the face of Shelby Evans, 51, against the tarmac as she was walking

NEW YORK DAYS

on the East Side. She escaped with bad bruises. Two days later he surfaced in Yonkers at the northern edge of New York, beating a woman on a highway footbridge. She remains in a critical condition. Then he beat and killed a woman as she opened a dry-cleaning store at 5am on one of the posher

stretches of Park Avenue.

curately, a grand jury sworn in yesterday, conclude that he is the latter, he will more than likely face the death penalty when

he is brought to trial. But just as typical of this city are his victims. The Central Park woman was born to Armenian immigrants and, like so many other young people in New York, dreamed that her talent

ried to a Colombian, she was one of thousands of immigrants who have come here in search of freedom and even riches the American Dream. The funeral for Mrs Alvarez.

Born in South China and mar-

attended by family, locals and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, was in Woodside on Monday.

New York is the greatest city of the face of the earth, not because of the rich and famous who live in Manhattan, but be-

Royster is the object of this common question: did he

lose his mind or is he, pure and simple, a vile being?

sadly familiar profile. A 22-yearold black from the Bronx, he was snared by police because of fingerprints he left at the scene of the Park Avenue killing that matched with prints taken from him after he was stopped for turnstile-jumping on the subway in March.

His parents split after his birth and his father, with whom he has had no contact for a decade, is in prison for the murder of his girifriend at Grand Central Station. Royster is the object of this common question: did he lose his mind or is he, pure and sim-ple, a vile being? If New Yorkers, and, more ac-

Even Royster himself cuts a as a pianist would eventually bring to professional fame. She wanted to play at Carnegie Hall. Instead, she used to play to customers at the nearby showroom of Steinway & Sons and teach in her West Side apartment. With each day, hopes that she will awake from her coma grow slimmer.

Evelyn Alvarez, 65, murdered as she arrived from her home in Queens to open her Park Avenue dry cleaners, was also part of the essence of New York. She was known as the "Lollipop Lady" because of the kindness she showed to the children who came into her shop, often accompanied by

cause of the contributions of thousands of immigrants who have made this city what it is to-Monsignar Joseph Finnerty told mourners. "They built our churches and our cathedrals, and today their services and their hard work and their sweat keep this city alive

and healthy." Probably, however, Royster grabbed the attention of this metropolis because he chose to strike first in Central Park. One of the Park's first commissioners wrote in 1867 that the point of this 867 acres of glades, meadows and pathways was to "dispel from the mind of the visitors, once within its enclosure,

nannies rather than parents. thoughts of business and mem-Ories calculated to sadden or depress". A commissioner serving to-

day suggested that Central Park was the "front yard" of every New Yorker. A writer in the New York Times went further, arguing that the Park was ac-tually the city's cathedral. New Yorkers always react

when the Park, their shared

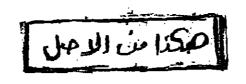
sacred place, is defiled. What

Royster did has already been added to that compendium of infamous Central Park outages.
They include the case of the "preppie murderer", Robert Chambers, who strangled Jen-nifer Levin in the shadow of the

Metropolitan Museum of Art 10 years ago; the brutal rape and beating of the Central Park jog-ger in April 1989 by a group of young men on a "wilding spree; and, finally, the murder last September of a 44-year-old Brazilian woman out for a run. The Royster story has been

huge, partly because the tabloid editors have chosen to make it so. But this has been a story with legs because the people of this city are not as inured to violent crime as the cliches about it might suggest. Sometimes a crime arises with which everyone can connect; and they are fascinated and appalled.

David Usborne



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QUOTA'

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Inside Burma: The democracy activist Aung San Suu Kyi tells of her latest clash with the junta

Beacon of freedom bides her time

THONAS CALEB Pangon

ata a popular general

all histar charts and astrolabes tiled o warn the official soothayer used by Burma's generals f the horrendous gaffe he was bout to commit.

Members of the ruling junta iad gathered for the consecration of a Buddhist pagoda in Mandalay and the astrologer, Myaung, was down in a freshy dug hole, calculating the exact, auspicious moment when the foundation stone was to be laid. Finally, he called up to the generals: "Respected sirs, the time has come for you to leave your seats and step down."

As they rose decorously, a titter raced through the crowd. The Burmese have an ear for puns and Myaung's command was interpreted to have a double meaning: he was ordering the junta to resign and restore democracy. The generals were unamused: Myaung was de-moted and now peddles horoscopes. Whatever divinations he tention of writing a constitution may now be making about the

rate figure

Big-Mi

regime, he keeps to himself.
It is not a matter he dares to share with foreign visitors. Yet in a country obsessed with horoscopes and numerology, talk in the Rangoon market-places is of shifting planets over the next two months which will usher in big political changes.

But instead of star-gazing, the Burmese have to glance no farther than down a certain street in Rangoon - University Avenue, home of the opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Aung San Suu Kyi, to reach the same conclusion.

She and her pro-democracy supporters are on a collision course with the junta, known as Slore (the State Law and Order Restoration Council). Editorials in the military-run press vilify her as a "puppet princess" and "sorceress" unleashed against Burma by Britain. Many Burmese brush aside these ac-

Suu Kyi to be repugnant.

At her rally last weekend, she autioned some 6,000 supporters not to become angry over inalts slung at her by the military

She told the Independent:

"The Slore say that we are provocative but look at the articles that appear in their news-paper. It tells more about them than me." In the house beside the lake where she spent six years under house arrest, Ms Sun Kyi spoke of her latest showdown with Slore, which has showdown with Siore, which has passed a law that threatens her and her supporters with up to 20 years jail for attending one of her pro-democracy rallies.

"We're flexible. May I suggest that Slove try some friendly

that Slore try some friendly persuasion with us instead of using the hammers," she suggested More than 120 members of her National League for Democracy (NLD) have been under arrest since last month, when Ms Suu Kyi called a party congress to draw up a new constitution. It was after this "provocation" that Slore lashed ck with draconian new laws.

"We're committed to preparing a draft constitution but we're down to earth. That means we don't have any inand shoving it down people's throats," she said. Pro-democracy activists want to reduce to military's sway over future civilian governments. Since her release from detention in July, the junta has snubbed Ms Suu Kyi, who realises that she could face re-arrest.

"It's a possibility. Maybe the Slore is just biding its time. But even if I'm arrested, we'll continue our work for democracy. These threats are nothing new to us," she added, laughing.

After seeing how many of her supporters defied the Slore's ban on her rallies, many Western observers in Rangoon pre-dict that putting Ms Sun Kyi back in detention could lead to public unrest, which she opposes. She said: "I'd like to think that even without me, people would find a safe but effective way of carrying on our

Many Rangoon diplomats ambitions as ridiculous; they lock up the Nobel Peace Prize winner again, many countries also find the slurs against Ms which were willing to overlook the army's ugly traits - its wide-spread use of forced labour, its corruption and its human-rights violations - might withdraw

their investment. Since 1990, Burma's gener-



People's champion: Ms Suu Kyi, who is on a collision course with the generals

als have only managed to attract men recently. The economy is \$800m in investment, far less than their Asian neighbours.

Ms Suu Kyi has hesitated on calling for fullscale interna-Slore, since this would hurt the Burmese, who are among Asia's poorest people.

"When you look at our country, do not just see it as a land of economic possibilities ... Understand that we also want to live peacefully," Ms Suu Kyi explained to foreign business-

so mismanaged that even though Burma is one of the region's biggest rice producers, little boys at the Rangoon river hoping to catch a few falling grains of rice from leaky sacks.

And now she says wistfully: "Maybe the Slore doesn't understand that they have nothing to lose in talking to us. "But perhaps they're too attached to all their medals and other

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

Lillary Clinton was accused of a "grave" abuse of a power by the Republican majority on the Senate Whitewater committee vesterday in covering up her involvement in the protracted controversy. But minority Democrats retorted that the report was a partisun and "despicable" attempt to smear the First Ludy in an election

With much of the committee's 700-page report leaked, the final exchanges control on the rediscreery of subproduced billing records of Mrs Clinton in the White House private quarters last January. Mrs Clinton had been the most likely person to put them there, the Republicans declared - a matter of "grave legal implication". However, the committee's ranking Democrat. Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, said that "having tailed to tarnish the President, the Committee waven a massive witch-hunt against Mrs Clinton." Rupert Curnwell - Washington

Torture and human rights abuses in 146 countries last year were partly the fault of Western countries - including Britain, France and the US - who allow the export of instruments of torture. Amnesty International said. "Responsibility for human rights abuses does not lie only with those who pull the trigger or apply the electric shock", Pierre Sanet, the Secretary General, said, launching Anmesty's 1996 report. "It also lies with those who supply the weapons and training needed to use them." In the report. Annesty singles out China, France, Germany, Russia, the UK and US as "trialing in terror". Christopher Bellamy

aht's feared militin leader Emmanuel Constant, wanted for murder and torture, has been treed from juil in the US. Constant, 39, led the Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti (FRAPH), a group of armed things which terrorised the population with the blessing of the army. Its activities helped trigger the September 1944 intervention by US troops. After fleeing to the US in December 1944, Constant was arrested and was expected to be deported to Haiti for the 1864 December. for trial. Phil Davison

atvia's president, Guntis Ulmanis, was re-elected for La second term by parliament, and vowed to continue a strong pro-Western foreign policy. Mr Ulmanis, seen as the candidate who would most guarantee internal political stability, gained 53 votes in the 100-seat parliament of the Baltic state. He said he would keep the country on track in efforts to get European Union (EU) and Nato entry. Riga, Reuter

Amass grave of 10,000 people killed by the Nazis in the Second World War has been found in Belarus, a defence ministry official said. The grave, in a ditch about 400 yards long, was discovered on the outskirts of Minsk. Many of the victims were Seviet Army soldiers, but there were also many civilians, including women and children. AP. Minsk

Two black churches in Mississippi were destroyed by "suspicious" fires late on Monday, police said, adding to a wave of suspected arson attacks on churches that has swept the South of the United States. The 109-year-old Mount Pleasant Missionary Church and the Central Grove Church joined a lost of 34 other black churches have ben hit by fire over the past 18 months, Reuter, Corinth, Mississippi.

The arms embargo against states of the former Yugoslavia has been terminated following an arms control agreement among them, the president of the UN Security Council announced. The embargo was imposed in September 1991 to curb fighting which crupted when Slovenia and Croatia declared independence. The Muslim-led government in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which declared independence in 1992, had long complained the embargo denied it the right to defend itself.

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international

Netanyahu hits first crisis over cabinet line-up

ERIC SILVER

Israel's new Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, broke all records last night by presenting his government to parliament only 18 days after his election was confirmed, but walked straight into a cabinet crisis.

Two of Mr Netanyahu's Likud party heavyweights, the former defence minister, Ariel Sharon, and the former foreign minister. David Levy, were absent from the initial cabinet list and boycotted the session of

Mr Levy had been offered his old post at the foreign ministry, but threw MPs into disarray by refusing to accept the post until the Prime Minister allocates Mr Sharon a senior portfolio. Later, Mr Levy said that Mr Sharon would be offered a specially created portfolio, as minister of the national infrastructure.

Mr Netanyahu is keeping the foreign ministry open for Mr Levy, whose Gesher splinter group holds seven of Likud's 32 Knesset seats. The Prime Minister will act for the time being as Foreign Minister.

team (as Communications Minister), predicted the crisis would be short-lived. But Mr Levy and Mr Sharon have a long record of sticking thorns into the sides of their own leaders. Mr Levy has old scores to settle from the days when Mr Netanyahu, as his insubordinate deputy, conspired to undermine his

authority as foreign minister. Mr Sharon's original omission from the top cabinet ranks not to make waves. ("unthinkable", in Mr Levy's words) was clumsy and ungracious. It was the burly old warrior who persuaded Mr Levy and another right-wing maver-ick, Rafael Eitan, to withdraw from the prime ministerial race. leaving Mr Netanyahu a clear run against Labour's Shimon Peres. Mr Sharon also brokered the deal that won the Likud candidate the crucial appealed to the leaders of

ultra-Orthodox vote. Building a coalition of six right-wing, religious, ethnic and centrist parties proved a crash course in the realities of Israeli politics for the 46-year-old Mr Netanyahu who had never been more than a deputy minister. He learned the hard way that even a prime minister cannot rule as he pleases.

The coalition parties, including his own Likud, still have their separate aspirations,

David Levy: Refuses to join cabinet without Sharon

interests and constituencies. If Limor Livnat, the only the Prime Minister wants to get woman on Mr Netanyabu's his legislative programme through and win a second term four years down the line, he has to satisfy their competing

> Mr Netanyahu chose Yitzhak Mordechai, another former general, as Defence Minister. The stolid and popular Mr Mordechai is a political novice. Unlike Mr Sharon, the architect of the disastrous 1982 invasion of Lebanon, he can be relied on

Once he was denied Defence, Mr Sharon demanded Finance, another china shop which Mr Netanyahu was determined to exclude him from. The job went to Dan Meridor, the former justice minister.

In his inaugural speech last night. Mr Netanyahu pledged to continue the search for peace with Israel's neighbours. He Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia to negotiate without conditions. But the new government's manifesto was condemned by the Palestinians and the Syrians. Mahmoud Abbas, the chief Palestinian negotiator in talks on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza, said Mr Ne-tanyahu's positions "contradict the spirit of peace." They were, he said, "uncompromising and stubborn".

The Netanyahu government said it undertook to "negotiate with the Palestinian Authority, with the intent of reaching a permanent arrangement, on the condition that the Palestinians fulfil all their commitments fully." This gives Mr Netanyahu an escape hatch if he does not like the way the negotiations are leading, as neither the Israelis nor the Palestinians have fulfilled all their commitments.

But, Mr Netanyahu rules out a Palestinian state, or a Jordanian-Palestinian federation. He is offering the Palestinians only "an arrangement whereby they will be able to conduct their lives freely within the frame-work of self-government".

The new government also rejects a "right of return of Arab populations to any part of the Land of Israel west of the Jordan river". This condemns hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees outside the West Bank and Gaza to permanent exile. On Jerusalem, Mr Netanyahu asserts that the city will "remain forever under

Israel's sovereignty". The guidelines make no mention of Hebron, the last West Bank town under Israeli occupation, which Israel was supposed to evacuate in March. However, they talk of strengthening and retaining Jewish set-tlements on the West Bank.

On the Syrian front, the incoming Government says it "views the Golan Heights as essential to the security of the state and its water resources". It adds: "Retaining Israeli sovereignty over the Golan will be the basis for an arrangement



Sudan 'faces mutiny and revolt'

Asmara – Sudan's Islamic fun-The main opposition group claims the Islamic-backed damentalist government could regime could be ousted by next month, writes David Orr fall within the next two to three weeks, according to the coun-

try's main opposition grouping, the National Democratic Althe southern part of the counliance (NDA). try since 1983.

The overthrow of the Khartoum regime, said the NDA, would be precipitated by an intifada (uprising), accompanied by the mutiny of a large part of the Sudanese armed forces. The regime of President Omar Hassan al-Bashir could have collapsed by the middle of next month, they say.

These predictions follow last week's issuing of an NDA ultimatum to the government to step down peacefully. The NDA's members include the two leading opposition parties, the Umma (Nation) Party and the Democratic Unionist Party, as well as the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA),

which has been fighting the members of the NDA's opposi-forceful imposition of Islam on tion-in-exile, is based in the

"We plan to ignite a popular uprising in a dozen towns and cities across northern Sudan," said Omar Nureldayem, secretary of the Umma Party and a former finance minister. "We don't expect a government capitulation but we do believe there will be military support for

the uprising."
Dissatisfaction has been growing with the military junta of General Bashir, which is inspired by the National Iscostly effects of the war, humanrights abuses and crippling price rises have caused hardship and

suffering in the Arab north. From abroad, there has been mounting criticism of Khartown, which is accused of sponsoring international terrorism. In April the United Nations imposed diplomatic and travel failure to hand over suspects wanted in connection with last year's attempted assassination of the Egyptian President, Hosni Mubarak.

"The time is now ripe for an uprising in Sudan', said Dr Nureldayem who, with other

Eritrean capital, Asmara. There will be casualties - perhaps a few thousand people will die. But the intervention of the

army would considerably reduce

the bloodshed."

Protests against price rises, in the past largely restricted to the Sudanese capital, have been brutally suppressed by the Khartoum government. The NDA predicts that recent increases in the price of fuel and other commodities will impel large sections of the populace to take to the streets in a show lamic Front (NIF) of the ideo of discontent in coming weeks logue Hassan at Turabi. The "It is our intention that the Khartouin regime be over thrown from inside Sudan,"

said General Fathi Ali, a former

commander of the Sudanese navy and now military head of the NDA based in Asmara. "We expect the NIF government will try to suppress the planned demonstrations. But government uses force. The uprising will take several days

to build up. Within a week to 10 days we will have secured the overthrow of the regime." General Ali, a graduate of Ethiopia, are regarded as hav-Camberley army staff college,

said he could muster a "small but capable armed force" to advance on Khartoum from the Eritrean border region.

Eritrea broke diplomatic relations with Sudan a year and a half ago over Khartoum's support of Eritrean Jihad, a small but potentially destabilising force of exiled Eritreans committed to the overthrow of the secular government of President Issaias Afewerki. Since then Eritrea has been providing military training to the Sudanese opposition at bases in western Eritrea.

"The Sudanese allied forces can be compled in their hun-dreds," said a Western diplomat in Asmara. "There are guerrilla bands operating out of a number of bases inside Eritrea. Militarily, they're like mosquito bites but psychologically they're very important. The opposition has the potential to seriously harass Khartoum. It has forced the more than 90 per cent of the Sudanese army to move resanctions on Khartoum for its Sudanese army is on our side sources from southern Sudan and there will be a mutiny if the and deploy significant units in

the north-eastern region." The Eritreans, who recenting produced one of the most

capable guerrilla forces in African history. The insurgents of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, who now form the ruling Eritrean Party for Democracy and Justice, were backed by Khartoum during their secessionist war.

Like other countries in the region, Eritrea has been unable to dissuade Khartoum from attempts to export Islamic fundamentalism beyond its borders. In recent months there has been an increase in Eritrean Jihad raids into Eritrea from Sudan and the two countries' border region is described as extremely tense. Ethiopia and Uganda have also accused Khartoum of destabilisation by mounting cross-border raids into their territories.

While Ethiopia and Uganda have been circumspect in their support of the Sudanese armed opposition, particularly of the SPLA, Eritrea has made no secret of backing anti-Khartourn elements. The NDA operates openly from the former Sudanese embassy in Asmara. "We realise there is no pos-

sibility of making Khartoum change its mind, said the Eritrean Foreign Minister, Petros Solomon, "It has shown a very clear intention to destroy ly celebrated the fifth anniver- our government. We have no sary of their successful struggle alternative but to resist and to independence from help the alternative Sudanese; political parties press for a change in Khartoum".

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Valujet backlash hits air watchdog

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

A major shake-up is looming at the Federal Aviation Administration following its failure to tackle the safety problems at Valujet which led to the indefinite grounding of the low-fare airline this week - five weeks after the Florida crash which killed 110 people. Valujet's closure – officially

'voluntary" but in effect coerced by the FAA - was the climax of a month of intense scrutiny by the watchdog agency, which posted inspectors on every Val-uet flight in the wake of the DC-9 crash in the Everglades.

The ultimate indictment is devastating. The month-long check uncovered "system-wide deficiencies" in Valujet's maintenance programmes, doubts about the airworthiness of several aircraft, and "multiple shortcomings" in Valujet's con-trol of the outside contractors. But the report is also an in-

dictment of the FAA, which well before the crash had identified problems at Valujet but failed to act. The agency had been "lax" and "clearly we have some

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culpability" the FAA head, David Hinson, said yesterday. This admission is expected to cost the job of Anthony Broderick, associate administrator for certification and regulation

For Valuet, which describes the closedown as "grossly un-fair", the outlook is bleak. With cash reserves of more than \$100m, the airline is not expected to file for bankruptcy. But, according to many industry analysts, it must get back into the air within a month if it is to have a chance of survival.

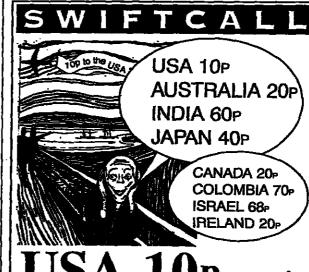
That goal may however be unattainable. The FAA said it would not re-authorise operations until Valujet "demonstrates appropriate corrective action". The affair is also an acute embarrassment to Federico Pena, the Transportation Secretary, who 24 hours after the crash on 11 May pro-nounced Valujet to be "a safe airline" despite FAA internal re-ports suggesting the contrary. The accident is believed to

have been the result of a fire in the cargo hold caused by the explosion of full oxygen contain-ers mistakenly loaded on board.

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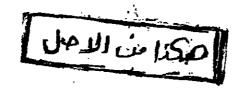
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the leader page

Russia's opportunity for democratic reform

Jestern governments are who came fifth with less than 6 per cent understandably relieved at of the vote. It remains disturbing that the results of last Sunday's presidential election in Russia. Although nothing can be taken for granted, President Boris Yeltsin seems likely to see off his Communist challenger, Gennady Zyuganov, in the second round of voting in early July.

Mr Zyuganov's nostalgia for the Soviet Union, his past involvement in hardline Communist and Russian nationalist causes and his obvious lack of enthusiasm for private enterprise would make him, from a Western point of view, a less suitable occupant of the presidency than Mr Yeltsin, the devil we know and, as often as not, get on with. If it should turn out that Russian voters share this assessment, that would be a welcome sign of maturity from an electorate that received its first taste of free political choice only seven years ago.

There were other positive features to Sunday's elections. Although a strong pro-Yeltsin bias in the state-run media marred the campaign, the voting and ballot-counting went smoothly and fairly. This was a big improvement on the parliamentary elections and constitutional referendum of December 1993, when extensive ballot-rigging probably took place.

Also on the plus side was the poor performance of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the foul-mouthed extreme nationalist

more than four million Russians thought that he should be made one of the most powerful men on earth, but at least this particular dog seems to have had his day.

Finally, it may be no bad thing that the election has created an overnight political star in the shape of Alexander Lebed. A retired army general who is little known in the West, he was appointed yesterday as Mr Yeltsin's top national security adviser and secretary of the powerful presidential Security Council. He quickly made it clear that he viewed his responsibilities as cov-ering not just defence, foreign affairs and internal security, but economic policy areas such as privatisation and the problem of capital flight. It is hard to avoid the conclusion

from that weighty agglomeration of portfolios, that Mr Lebed has just become the second most powerful man in Russia. No doubt the presi-dent's loyal Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, would disagree. But Mr Lebed now has a proven base of electoral support - more than 10 million votes - whereas Mr Chernomyrdin was humiliated in last December's parliamentary elections. Mr Yeltsin even hinted yesterday that he regarded Mr Lebed as a suitable successor as president. That is not surprising, given Mr Lebed's age (he is only 46), his status



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• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

as Russia's most popular general, and the similarities between the two men's

political views and instincts. As the pivotal figure in a second Yeltsin term, Mr Lebed should have much to contribute. His main difference with Mr Yeltsin is over Chechnya: he has been one of Russia's most outspoken critics of the botched military crackdown. With the intransigent Pavel Grachev kicked out yesterday as defence minister, that provides grounds for hoping that the Chechen war will be brought to a swift conclusion - and not before time.

Like Mr Yeltsin, and unlike Mr

Zyuganov, Mr Lebed does not suffer from nostalgia for the Soviet command economy. Though a soldier rather than an economist, he recognises the virtues of the free market and would broadly support Mr Yeltsin's reforms. With continued help from Western financial institutions, there is no reason why Russia's transformation into a successful market economy should not be complete by 2000.

Mr Lebed will also want to clamp down on tax evasion, racketeering and other forms of illegal self-enrichment by Russia's new classes of businessmen and gangsters. Many Russians would

argue that it is high time the government got to grips with this problem. But the political temperature will zoom up in Moscow if Mr Lebed investigates the privatisation of some of Russia's biggest state companies and confirms the truth of rumours that there is corruption in high places.

The main problem thrown up by the election and its immediate fall-out lies in the impact on Russia's political system. If Russia can be considered a constitutional democracy, it is an imperfect one with authoritarian features. By giving a man of Mr Lebed's immense, if suddenly acquired, political weight the job of steering the Security Council, Mr Yeltsin is strengthening an institution over which parliament and the courts have no oversight.

The council's far-reaching powers and lack of accountability go a long way to explaining why the Russian inter-vention in Chechnya has so badly blundered. Perhaps Mr Lebed can help to correct the Chechnya mistakes, but the heart of the problem will remain: parliament and the law are too weak in relation to secretive presidential organs of authority. Matters are made worse by Mr Yeltin's propensity to take political advice from insiders such as his personal bodyguard, Alexander Korzhakov, as much as from his government

ministers. If Mr Yeltsin defeats Mr Zyuganov

by a convincing margin, he would have an opportunity to democratise Russia's political institutions. To judge from his recent record, however, it seems doubtful that he will choose this path. That will be a missed opportunity, because we need a more democratic Russia as much as the Russians do.

In defence of the national dish

avid Blunkett is troubled by Enumbers and B-numbers. Minimum nutritional standards are essential, he insists, to tempt children back from the chip shop and into the hall ter their daily school dinner.

Has he tried a school meal lately? Lack of nutrition is the least of it. Far worse is the daily abuse of innocent palates. At least the soggy swede and cabbage doled out by Mrs Wham-it-on were rich enough in taste to be genuinely revolting. Today's chill-cooked offerings are more bland than the packaging they arrive in. They are a gastronomic insult.

Par better that the next generation's gourmets lunch on our most celerated national dish; fresh fish (that brain-food!) swiftly fried alongside slivers of potato (that vitamin C!), all heavily seasoned to taste.

and revol

Joseph Man Man Man

David Orr Sabotage of Britain's role

in Europe Sir: As an Englishman and a European I have never felt so profoundly ashamed. In his Iron Curtain speech Winston Churchill was honest enough to explain that European

began operating in 1949, Ernest Bevin and the Foreign Office saw to it that member governments gave it no real teeth. This policy was pursued consistently by HMG throughout the Fifties and Sixties. When in opposition, authentic Europeans such as Harold Macmillan or Roy Jenkins spoke up convincingly in the Parliamentary Assembly in Strasbourg, but as soon as they assumed governmental responsibility they relapsed into Foreign Office negativism, or even tried to sabotage the emerging European Community. Only Ted Heath showed himself to be a loyal European while at the top.

Finally, Britain understood that her sheer self-interest made it inescapable for her to join the club. But the spirit of sabotage continued to lurk, culminating in the series of disasters of the

Now we have incontrovertible proof of the cynical contempt with which her Government betrayed the trust of the peoples of the Continent in 1988, selling off

The writer was clerk of the Parliamentary Assembly from 1971-

condemnation of two of his junior withhold their support across the "Parliamentary board" in pursuance of a single political object dear to their hearts ("Porkbarrel politics come to Britain", 14

Jacques Santer could surely be forgiven for strongly complaining about HMG holding up the progress of all new business until we get what we want, on a single issue of great importance to us - a solution of the beef crisis. Sir FREDERIC BENNETT Machynlleth, Powys

Pleasures of

Sir: At the time when I became a father 25 years ago, I felt very much as Fran Ahrams does ("My nest is empty, and I love it", 15 June). I was not sure I wanted the responsibility of children and only concurred because my wife was so anxious to have a family. With hindsight, I am glad that her wiser counsels prevailed.

Kids bleed you of money and emotion and force you to spend countless hours watching their antics on football, hockey and cricket pitches, or at the edge of show-jumping arenas. I would not have missed a second of it. Parenthood has been arduous but tremendous fun.

unity was an excellent thing for the Continent, but that Britain would applaud from the sidelines. When the Council of Europe

Thatcher regime.

poisoned goods under false pretences.

Not since the Belgrano went down have I felt it so difficult to look my neighbours here in the JOHN PRIESTMAN Strasbourg

Sir: John Major has been widely and rightly commended for his colleagues for threatening to

parenthood



My Dad's done more to break down the class system than your Dad!

Base MPs' pay on productivity

Ms Abrams made her choice and

made mine - and we are both

happy with the outcome. I take

assumption that childbirth has

Parenthood can also keep

fathers in their place. But most

importantly, she assumes that,

her old age. No matter what

provision she has made for her etirement, the wealth to service it

because she has always been financially self-sufficient, she will

not be a burden to any children in

has got to be generated within the

Sir. Fran Abrams is right. Children

are expensive and prevent one

from doing your own thing (for a

short time relative to one's whole

life). I respect her decision not to

However, while sitting outside

with my two children, eating pizzas

before bedtime, and listening to my

nine-year-old telling a subversive

Goldilocks story to amuse her six-

year-old brother, it struck me, not

bring an extra dimension to one's

existence, and provide a very necessary foil to our overweening

concerns with our careers and

want to have children then she

shouldn't have any. But she is

missing out.
ANNE COPLEY

Gloucestershire

Chekenham:

ourselves. If Ms Abrams doesn't

for the first time, that children

and lavatorial version of the

continuing workings of society -

that is, by my children and their

CHRIS MOWBRAY

Tibberton, Worcestershire

have children.

been promoted to keep women in their place and to ensure the care of parents in their old age.

ssue, however, with her

Sir; You support a 30 per cent pay increase for MPs (leading article, 18 June). Later this week I shall be trying to persuade university ademics to accept a pay increase which, for the second year running, will be one per cent below the inflation of retail prices. These academics are intelligent people they will think a salary of £45,000 for an MP is not outrageous. However, they will not understand why you do not call for an increase in productivity in the form of a 30 cent cut in the number of MPs. Over several years Parliament has supported the imposition of

"efficiency gains" on the public

sector so that more has to be done for less. We are all entitled to see MPs gagging and spluttering in the attempt to swallow their own medicine. SPROUSE Chief Executive Universities and Colleges

Employers Association

London WI

Branson against the oligopolists

Sir: Professor Doganis' time as charman of state-owned and subsidised Olympic Airways appears to have done little to improve his understanding of the importance of competition in air transport and the need to protect the interests of consumers (Letters, 18 June).

He professes not to comprehend the difference between the proposed merger between British Airways and American Airlines and

the co-operative agreement signed in 1994 between Virgin Atlantic and Delta Airways, and accuses me of crying foul because someone has put ogether a bigger alliance than ours. One obvious difference is that BA is, by its own admission, the largest international scheduled airline in the world. It will be merging with the world's second largest international and domestic airline. Together they will control over 60 per cent of air traffic etween the UK and US, and even higher shares on some individual routes. How can anyone seriously compare the impact on competition and consumer choice of such a

n Atlantic The second important difference is that our arrangement with Delta was not a merger. We sell blocks of seats to Delta, who then compete with us in the marketplace. We are not allowed to collude on prices and unlike BA and American we have not sought exemption from the competition laws in Europe or the US to do so.

merger with any deal involving

When approving the Virgin Atlantic/Delta alliance both the UK and US governments recognised that it would increase competition on the North Atlantic, not reduce it. I challenge anyone to prove that the same is true for the BA/American

RICHARD BRANSON Chairman Virgin Group of Companies

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

(Fax 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

After divorce, fault lives on

Sir: Whatever Polly Toynbee's opinion (17 June), fault in divorce is not a "concept" that can be killed off by legislation. All too often it is a tragic fact. Of course, there are (perhaps many) cases in which a fictional fault is invented to speed up legal proceedings. There is no reason why these should not instead end in no-fault divorce acknowledging that the marriage died on its feet out of nothing worse than neglect. But there are also (far too many) cases in which an innocent party falls victim to very real physical or emotional violence. It helps no one except the perpetrator of this violence to dissolve such marriages in the same

Once divorce has ended the marriage, life goes on. Both parties will probably enter into new relationships. Despite revious hurts, they may remarry. To have a chance of thriving, those future relationships will have to be built on a candid acknowledgement of what went before. A person who has been battered and betrayed needs to have that past known and allowance made for it. Someone who has used a previous relationship as an opportunity to brutalise and belittle should not be left free to inflict the same undeserved punishment on another unsuspecting partner. The Rev TONY WHIPP Whitehaven, Cumbria

Honest broker for Ulster

Sir: As an American professor of politics and for 20 years a resident of the home town of George Mitchell [chairman of the peace talks on Northern Irelandj, I have followed his career closely since before he went to Washington ("Revealed: the 'Irish-American' senator who is as Irish as a stuffed vine leaf", 17 June). Three comments might be of interest.

First, whilst his father was Irish and Catholic, his mother was Lehanese, and that Maronite tradition was a far more important part of his upbringing. Second, he has always been reasonably close to the Kennedys - most New England Democrats are. But those links have little to do with their stands on things Irish (as odd as that might seem to British readers) and reflect, instead, shared views on at least a dozen other issues. Finally, while no one would ever claim that George Mitchell has one of the great creative minds of the 20th century, he is a remarkably fair and honest man who excels at forging coalitions amongst disagreeing politicians. If a "third party" could help the peace process, few people in the world could do a better job. CHARLES HAUSS Lower Shiplake, Oxfordshire

Single service

Sir: As an alternative to Dr Norman Tanner's suggestion (Letters, 17 June), what about introducing the real double fault: a serve that was both wide and long would not qualify for a second attempt. HARVEY R COLE Winchester

The horrors of getting a visa in Moscow

Sir: Further to the article Russian fans ery foul at visa chaos" (12 June) and the letter UK snubs Russians" (15 June). my daughter, who is teaching in Moscow for part of her gap year before going to university, has had recent experience of trying to

obtain a visa for a Russian friend. She writes: "At 7am tomorrow I am meeting Marsha at the embassy to try and get to the front of the queue for British visas, which stretches round the block. It opens at 9am. The visa section is horrible – just queues of desperate people, and the odd board stuck to the front of the building with glittering photos of the interior of Buckingham Palace (as if we all live like that). Big Ben and the Thames at sunset, etc.

Later in the same letter she writes: "Monday afternoon. Over ie were aiready inere They let in six people every three-quarters of an hour. In the end I jumped over the barricade with Marsha following and forced my way in with the aid of my passport and angry words. Many people had been queueing since Friday evening, and so there was a lot of shouting. particularly as no one paid attention to who had got there

"Once inside we had to queue for ages to fill in forms, then found out that we didn't have enough roubles to pay for the visa application (regardless of whether you get one or not). Luckily, I found an English woman who gave us the money in exchange for my cheque. Then we had to wait again to be interviewed. By this time it was 12.30.

"Eventually we were called up. The interviewer (English) was incredibly rude to us, ignored me, and just said 'Your mother lives in England. I'll have to send you for a more detailed interview on Thursday afternoon.

My recent visa to Russia cost £10 and was arranged by post. I understand the charge made for a visa at the British embassy in Moscow is the equivalent of £30, ANTHONY FURNESS London N8

Found: men who do visit their GP

Sir: General practice remuneration is a bizarre system, and in fact if 60 per cent of men are unregistered and register this year the effect will not be to give us increased income with which to treat the increased numbers (Letters, 14 and 17 June). What would actually happen would be that the Government would note the following year that the health service had paid more to GPs than it had planned, and reduce fees to reclaim the money in the following year.

However, the balance of male and female patients in my practice, and in those others I know of, is sufficiently close to 50:50 that the idea of a large unregistered and unregarded pool of men seems highly unlikely. Most of them rely on their wives or mothers to remember the name of their doctor for them, and indeed have commonly been registered along with the rest of the family Dr A K MIDGLEY

Untangling marriage

After all the moral handwringing, divorce will be a different affair now the Commons has passed the Family Law Bill. Patricia Wynn Davies talks to a couple who have tried the changes Parliament thinks will help troubled relationships

tried to save their marriage. It was not the snap, throwaway decision that many imagine divorce involves. It was a slow, painstaking and painful process that took years, not weeks or

They have been through all the processes that Lord Mackay's Family Law Bill advocates for many thousands of others contemplating a breakup. They had marriage guidance counselling, plenty of it, they went through mediation, they came to grief at the hands of lawyers, they emerged at the end with a fierce resolve to do no more damage to their children. The story of Helen and Jeremy spotlights the reality of what future divorcing couples might face.

We had a lot of marriage guidance counselling," says Helen, "We had exhausted all the avenues." Eventually, after 15 years of marriage, they reached a joint decision that it had, to quote the existing law and the new, irretrievably broken down.

"It wasn't as though we were constantly fighting," said Jeremy. "We decided together 'We can't make it work now."

They had been to Relate and gone through a series of counselling sessions. There is a three-month "quarantine" period in the Bill in which couples can explore counselling but must desist from getting on with anything else to do with the divorce - the next best thing to being given compulsorily marriage guidance. But, as this couple's experience shows, many people have already explored the marriage guid-ance avenue long before they seek a divorce. Thus, say some critics, the three-month "standoff" period may prove to be even damaging to families where children desperately need a new settled way of life.

Jeremy and Helen, who had tried counselling at a much earlier stage in their marriage, are proof that some couples do

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cremy and Helen really try very hard to save their marriages. But trying to become reconciled is as much as can be expected, and no amount of protracted discussion by policy-makers, still less party politicians, will ever alter that.

In Helen and Jeremy's case, nobody else was involved. The root of the problem lay in a lack of communication, exacerbated by Jeremy's refusal to go back to a full-time salaried job in medicine. After a business venture failed, leaving the family with huge debts, he combined work as a locum with a consultancy for international companies

We never learnt to communicate through disagreement," he says now.

Their decision finally to split up had been gestating over a period of years - not at the breakneck speed some MPs appear to consider is the norm - but none the less they ended up getting a divorce on the grounds of unreasonable behaviour. They got their decree absolute a few days ago. They had begun by consult-

ing a lawyer friend, who advised them that this was the quickest way to bring about a conclusion to a long-drawn-out and painful process. Under the existing law, the alternative would have been to separate for two years. Under the new Bill, because their children are under 16, they would have to wait 18 months: three months for "reconciliation" and a further 15-month period of "reflection and consideration".

Their decision, once it had been reached, to get it over with is the sort of experience that has prompted some family lawyers to warn that the 18month cooling off period required by the Bill could have the opposite effect to the one intended, with people jumping on to the counselling-waiting-mediating-divorce rollercoaster at an earlier stage than they might otherwise have done.

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the lawyer. "I would rather not have had to apportion blame. It is a sordid business. And when you list the items, they sound incredibly petty. There is no way that anybody from outside

can judge. The lawyer friend, she adds. had emphasised that it was, frankly, irrelevant whether the her or at Jeremy. "I glanced at the petition once," says Jeremy. There was never any question of a counter-claim of compet-As it was, someone had to ing allegations. That this fiction present the petition, which is now to be removed from the Helen duly compiled through law-by the introduction of "no

Gross Car %

2.35

2.55

285

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fault divorce" - was and remains, despite the political machinations, a fundamental plank of the Bill.

The more pressing ques-tion is none the less whether the Bill can live up to claims that the mediation (resolution through a trained than resorting to an acrimonious exchange of solicitors' letters and, worse, court hearings and court orders, will convert some of the hostility and bitterness into constructive discussion about the future.

There is no compulsion as such to use mediation, although a growing number of couples are doing so even under existing law. Mediation might also persuade a few more couples to stick together, and it does help to prevent divorce being so

Nobody, however, should imagine that the process can somehow be anxiety-free. Jeremy and Helen had been to marriage guidance, but all the old feelings of sadness and disappointment still came flooding back. Helen recalls feeling emotionally overwhelmed on their first meeting with a mediator. "It was because of the in reaching agreement about sorting out the finances took a recognition that things had bro- caring for the children. Helen, ken down irretrievably." she a junior school teacher, has prisays. But she feels mediation the couple had a series of sessions while they were still living

together in the same house was the key to handling the really difficult issues, such as

and on alternate weekends, while their parents babysit for each other on evenings out. "Helen would like me to see telling the children, who are more of them. But we consult

many care. The children stay

with Jeremy one night a week

"We did not have very many each month and try to work it friends who were divorced. We out," says Jeremy, as he gives

'I would rather not have had to apportion blame. It is a sordid business'

had nobody to turn to for the children their Sunday advice on how to say these morning breakfast. things. While mediators do not tell you how to do it, it did give us the confidence to know what we were going to say."

The floods of tears from the children duly came, and Samuel, their seven-year-old, would still like Jeremy and Helen to live in separate flats. one for mummy and one for daddy, one above the other". While stable at the moment, the family's emotional future is

unknowable. But Jeremy and

Helen at least had no difficulty

charged as arguments about children. The Bill also insists

Equally, no one should imag-

ine that nothing will go wrong.

Arguments about money and

property are just as emotionally

that a divorce can be withheld if "arrangements for the future" have not been made. opening the way for recalcitrant spouses - a few anyway - to make an unreasonable package of demands the price of a

divorce. For Jeremy, the business of

turn for the worse when solicitors became involved. The hostility and distrust that he felt they had managed to keep under control was reintroduced. He feels the outline agree-

ment that had been reached during mediation was unstitched in the nine months ings as a self-employed person. Helen concedes that it is this episode that has left Jeremy feeling particularly raw."I know he feels a great deal more negative about that than I do," she

For her part, she was grappling with the dilemma of signing an agreement at a time when trust and respect had gone. But, she emphasises: The mediators were very clear that I needed to seek legal advice because it wasn't straightforward."

Jeremy believes that she saw a solicitor too soon. While the mediation sessions came to £500, he spent a further £1,500 in solicitors' fees.

Eventually, the "clean break" was achieved - Helen got the house and maintenance

for the children and no further call on Jeremy's assets for her-self. They are resolved to avoid unhappiness for their children at all costs. But the tussle over the financial settlement left Jeremy soured. "The family is several thousand pounds the poorer," he says.

the Bill is in a sent unique in the way that it promotes the institution of marriage while also trying to make the best fist it can of divorce. So do Helen and Jeremy, at the end of a lengthy period of counselling, mediaion and then divorce, still, as Lord Mackay would like,

believe in marriage? Neither seems in any doubt about still supporting marriage and both, cautiously, hope to marry again - but better pre-pared than last time, when they were 23 and 24. They are older and wiser.

Says Helen: "I am still convinced that marriage is a worthwhile thing. There are couples who are happier together in 15 or 18 years than when they first married. I was very happy within my parents' marriage. For me it is still an ideal. There needs to be more help before marriage. Lack of communication was our big problem. I think we had very high expectations of one another.

Helen and Jeremy are a couple who tried hard, a million miles removed from the divorce-at-will stereotype pro-trayed by so many MPs, some of them divorcees, during the age of the Bill. The new egislation has taken no chances by ensuring that most divorces will take longer to accomplish and that it will be much more difficult to embark on a second marriage without dealing properly with the aftermath of the

first. mation (information sessions of the extent of Jeremy's earn- are the only mandatory aspect) and much more forceful reminders of parents' responsibilities for the welfare and feelings of their children, perhaps a lot more counselling and probably a lot more mediation, with often good and sometimes not so good results.

But when breakdown comes for the many who are just like I Jeremy and Helen, to dispute whether the new law makes divorce "harder" or "easier" is to miss the point. The truth is that ending a marriage is difficult and daunting, not neat and tidy and mechanistic. The Bill has pitfalls, but at least the law has matured enough to reconcile a belief in marriage with today's social realities.

Some of the names in this article have been changed.

Pepys doesn't know what he's missing

writes wheeze to let the readers do the writing while the 'writer' cashes the cheque deserves top marks for something. Choose: Ingenuity ... cheek ... efficiency ... the reader-feel-good factor." Good grief, woman, has it completely escaped your attention that the workers who get paid most are those who delegate? I sit here listening to the merry hum of my fax machine and making crucial decisions about what emerges. I am editor and managing director of this column: I only wish the cheque reflected my impor-

"She was only a sausage-maker's daughter has inspired Mike Bradshaw to: "But she curst every wurst that she burst" and John Hobson to But she knew her Long Johns from her Franks."

Sebastian Robinson struck a Sadly they trudge round the Royal Academy,

All the good bourgeois, for Yearning for Art to be repre-Who do they end up with?

Damien Hirst.

I was given a sharp rap over the knuckles by a Hirstophile after being rude last year about the Turner shortlist so I wish it to be known that I my -God knows I try - to keep an open mind. Only the other day, finding myself in St James's with time on my hands, I applied myself to two extremely modern exhibitions. The first - to be found at the Economist Tower - is called "2 seconds 9 months", for, as the artist, Maria Marshall, explains, "An ejaculation of 2 seconds is sufficient to provide enough sperm to fertilise an egg; 9 months is self-explana-

The visual bit is OK, if you fancy a metaphor in the shape of a vast wooden-slatted pyramid housing baby pine trees, but what really grabbed my attention was Ms Marshall's diary of her preg-



Ruth Dudley Edwards

nancy - complete with doctor's commentary. Now I'm well-up on boring diaries. When writing the history of The Economist I had to skim 60 years of the fantastically duli journal of one Eliza Bagehot, daughter of the paper's founder and wife of Walter, the third editor. A typical entry read "Got up late as had bad headache. Lady Radice called and told me Mrs Midget was unwell. Zoe read part of Mr Glad-

stone's speech to me pm." Then last year, when I wrote a crime novel about a fox-hunting bill, I had to bone up on hunt diaries that made Eliza seem Pepys-like by com-parison. I still keep instruc-

autobiography: "In it should be noted the hounds he hunts with, the meets he attends. the distance to them, the weather, the directions of the wind, a concise account of the day's sport, and any note-worthy incident in it ... does not the soldier's art consist of order, simplicity and clear-

So does Ms Marshall's. And though more selective than the Antipodean who was in the news recently for keeping a record of every single event in his life, from the few pages I could see she appears to omit no detail, however slight, relating to her pregnancy. Where she goes further than Eliza, hunt diarists or the Antipodean is in selling it for £350 plus VAT in a limited edition of 29.

I proceeded to the ICA and found Chapmanworld, an exhibition consisting mainly of pairs of child-like mannequins fused together in interesting places and naked except for their trainers. Upstairs a skeleton mannequin suspended from the

tions from an Edwardian ceiling dripped copious autobiography: "In it should amounts of red fluid into a bucket: on the wall was a notice disclaiming responsi-

bility for damage caused to clothing by splashes of blood. I did not sign up for the workshop, exploring through discussion and practical experment the Chapman use of dis-torted focus. OK, OK, so I'm bourgeois.

Improbability of the week: A marathon reading of Ulysses on Sunday at the James Joyce Centre in Dublin was kicked off by Jeffrey Archer. Which leads me neatly into the ICA postcard of the day with its Molly Bloom overtones, Jacky Fleming draws one woman saying to another: "then he said why was I always trying to CHANGE him and I said probably because he's such an obnoxious thoughtless selfish overbearing self-righteous hypocritical arrogant loud-mouthed misogynist bastard..."

My fax number is 0181 932 4829 - not 4629.

Miles Kington is back next week.



gured = of

the commentators

Shreds of hope remain among the shards of glass The push for peace came from within Northern Ireland, and we owe it to them to keep going

S o was it wrong to give Gerry Adams the benefit of so many doubts? Does it turn out that, in the end, the wolfish smile and tweed jackets were only light dis-guise for the wolfman of West Belfast? Once IRA, always IRA? Are those who always mocked the peace process as a republican fraud to be congratulated? And are the peacemakers to be cursed

it includes general

as naive? Five question-marks in the first paragraph is going it a bit - but feels about right for this week. In London and Belfast, the mood among the politicians I talked to yesterday is desperately darker than at any time since the original ceasefire. There are warnings of carnage to come and political seizure. In Washington and Dublin, many of those who feted Gerry Adams feel sick and betrayed - and, no doubt, more than a little

And certainly, if you deal with the IRA, you are playing a dangerous game. It may be that there are people in its army council who truly believe that they can continue the peace process with a little judicious

and the golds.

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22

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ate figure

bombing - murder the odd Asian shopkeeper in Canary Wharf if you think London ministers are dragging their heels; strew devastation across central Manchester when Adams is excluded from the talks.

There will be so-called strate-gists who think that all-party talks can be kick-started, or rather, bomb-started. And after that, when there is a little trouble with the chairman of the sub-committee on electoral systems, or whatever, they can always kill some Liverpudlian commuters, or maim a granny in Bristol,

to jolly things along This black comedy of a political strategy was, no doubt, given some sustenance by the decision to forge ahead with talks after the first London bombings. But somehow, a second round of attacks changes things entirely. It makes explicit the threat held over the political process in a way which democrats can neither

evade nor tolerate. It may also summon a savage response. Unionist politicians are warning privately that loyalist killers will produce some kind of foul 'spectacular" if the IRA has really (as they think) returned to war. Then Northern Ireland would slide back - except that, because of the bottled-up frustration of assorted maniacs, things would be even

The pessimists believe this is bound to happen eventually. Some, like Conor Cruise O'Brien, expected it a year ago, and drew detailed word-pictures of how the maybem would creep back as it became clear that the north would not be forced into a united Ireland. Others went silent, and waited. A few politicians, such as Norman Lamont, warned publicly that the peace process was embroiling the British government in appeasement. But no one wanted to hear

If the worst now happens, then lessons will be drawn. It will be said that one should never parley with



The moderates could still design a new political process

terrorists; as many in Israel believe too. Next, it will be said that the Irish situation is hopeless - that it has been hopeless since the first dour Presbyterian squires ran Catholic peasants off barley fields, and that it will always be hopeless. Finally, some Tory rightwingers will say that the whole sorry episode shows up Major yet again as a gullible and rather weak politician, dangerously eager for liberal applause.

Each of these lessons should be refuted. It is nonsense to say that one shouldn't ever listen to terrorists; unless you are prepared to, you'll never know when a terrorist is becoming an ex-terrorist. You have to keep trying. It's the burden of democracies to hold out the hand - even if the hand is sometimes bit-

To say that the Northern Irish problem is hopeless may sound judicions and worldly-wise from the safe distance of London chibland, but it mentally conderns many thousands of bright, fresh-faced and cheerful fellow citizens to an early death, or to maining, or bereave-ment. It wasn't a handful of liberal journalists and naive leaders from outside the province who championed the peace process; it came from within Northern Ireland itself and is desperately wanted by hundreds of thousands of ordinary, apolitical people, many of whom were brought up to hate one another and

are now learning new ways. Major's involvement, sometimes imaginative, sometimes stubborn, wasn't the result of his naivete or his lust for applause, but of a certain openness and courage. He could never move far without the Unionists - not merely because of the parliamentary constraints, but because without them there could be no settlement. In the event, Major took them further than they thought

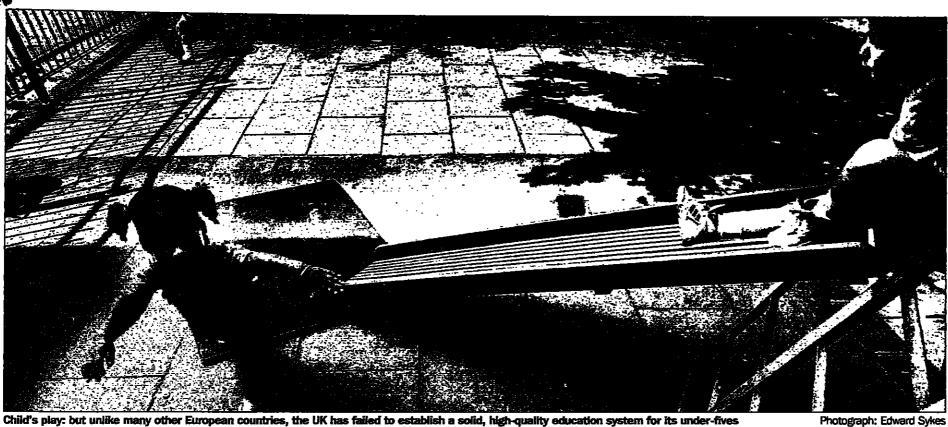
they'd ever go. As his European beef war gets bogged down, and as his party continues to crumble, the crunching offtrack of the peace process is a blow to Major's standing - and surely, if he's flesh and blood, to his morale. But if he is voted out, then Tony Blair will have to go back and pick up his pieces. Trying to draw in Adams and Sinn Fein was a necessary gamble. If it hasn't paid off, someone will have to try a similar

gamble with someone else in a few

Even now, there are shreds of hope. If Adams splits the republican movement and stands aside from the IRA, then the core of violent republicanism will be reduced. Many more people voted for him in the recent elections than can stomach a return to bombs and bullets. It is, I agree, unlikely that he will disown the bloody romanticism of his own past; but anything is possible.

Even if that doesn't happen then David Trimble - now in the strongest position of any Unionist leader for decades - and John Hume, and the rest of the moderates, can still work together and design a new political process for the province. They are changing themselves and by changing themselves, are changing the political

weather there too. So no miracle has happened. So the path to a better Northern Ireland proves slippery, winding and treacherous. But the peacemakers, if not blessed, have to hold together and keep walking it. There is no



Even a child could do it better

; into drink elgians do it. The French do it. Even educated cannot organise a decent

nursery-education system. Yet again, our attempts to educate our under-fives properly have landed us in the soup. Ministers were hoping their nursery voucher scheme, due to go national in April 1997, would turn out to be a vote-winner, but the House of Lords seemed to have other ideas, and voted to delay implementation until the full results of a pilot scheme in four areas are known - in effect until after the general election.

While other European nations provide nursery places for almost all their three- and four-year-olds, we still have room for only two thirds of ours. And many of those are in overcrowded primary-school reception classes, playgroups or day nurseries, which may not offer much in the way of education.

And this parlous state of affairs has not come about for lack of trying. either. Successive governments have talked about a universal nursery eduacation since Margaret Thatcher first promised it back in the early Seven-

ties, when she was education secretary.

Just one thing is certain: parents want this to happen. In France, where there are places available for all three-

Britain has uniquely failed to provide enough nurseries. Fran Abrams assesses latest efforts to solve the problem

year-olds, 98 per cent of parents take them up. Even parents in the four "phase one" voucher areas have welcomed the initiative, which gives them £1,100 to spend in a state or private school, or in a playgroup. A survey published this month by the preschool learning alliance showed that 80 per cent of playgroups felt parents were happy with the vouchers.

Parents who previously had to pay for nursery places benefit most. Among them is Cannel Carolan, a single mother whose son, Dean, has been going to the Imps playgroup in minster for almost two years.

Until this April, Mrs Carolan had to pay £5.50 per week out of her benefit for Dean, but now his place is free. With a rise in fees coming, she doubts that she would have been able to continue taking him each afternoon without a voucher. There are many other single mothers at the group who are

similarly pleased, she says.
"Under the voucher scheme they have to start teaching them things. It's definitely made a difference - Dean's

orised lots of telephone numbers. Every time I come out of the bathroom he's on the phone talking to his grandfather," she said.

But the delight of Mrs Carolan and her fellow parents should not lead ministers to indulge in any premature triumphalism. If, as Gillian Shephard hinted yesterday, the Government overturns the Lords' decision and presses on, the national launch next April could be a ghastly mess.

The fact that the pilot scheme in estminster, Wandsworth, Kensington and Chelsea and Norfolk has been a moderate success is not in the least bit surprising. Parents are happy with the programme because ministers have made concessions to ensure nothing goes wrong. Mrs Carolan's voucher only pays for the full cost of Dean's place because the Government gave in to protests and abandoned plans to give playgroups only half the £1,100 value for each child.

There have been many other instances of almost staggering flexidefinitely made a difference – Dean's learning so much more. He's learnt how to spell his name and he's mem-

new local-authority nursery units. Grumbles from Wandsworth about having to educate voucher-less fouryear-olds from neighbouring boroughs? Lo and behold, almost £500,000 extra cash is provided, allegedly to compensate the council. Demands from all four authorities to redeem the vouchers through their local manage-

ment of schools funding, giving them effective control of the scheme? No problem. Next year things will be different. With every authority in the country involved, there will not be funds for hand-outs all round. The schools minister, Robin Squire, has admitted that there may not be enough places to go round, either. Without incentives for

the net result will be that some fouryear-olds will be crammed into primary-school reception classes, while others sit at home. Even worse, there could be horror stories about dangerous, badly run private nurseries operating on vouchers. With inspectors unable to visit all 16,000 providers for up to a year, cow-

boy operators could cause panic.

private firms to build new nurseries,

What most parents are looking for is a safe, stimulating nursery, which is open at hours that enable them to go private nurseries may not be safe. An overcrowded reception class with 35 children is not likely to be stimulating enough. And a voucher that pays for five half-days each week may only serve to complicate rather than ease 1 is soon rouged up to the nines explains. child-care arrangements.

If things do go wrong, they could do so in spectacular fashion. Imagine the horror in Downing Street if, just weeks before a general election, it becomes clear that thousands of parents have vouchers but no nursery places.

Nursery education may not prove much of a winner for Labour, either. The opposition has committed itself to high-quality nursery education for all three- and four-year-olds, but it has not committed itself to the huge injection of public funds that may be needed. Instead, it has relied on the hope that the public-private partner-ships can provide the necessary capital investment.

The problem with nursery education in the UK is that we put it in the same category as apple pic. It is a Good Thing, but it has never been at the top of our list. In the immortal words of the song, what we should be saying is: "Let's do it."

Twigging the need for etiquette

A snack attack should be indulged in style. Pandora Melly gets crisp

y legal friend X (not his real name) is in another of his horrible tempers. He rings to rant about the helpful hints on packets of Twiclets. Apparently, you lay a blue paper napkin across a plate, and then simply "toss" the Twiglets across it in casual log-jam formation. It says "serving suggestion" below the photograph.
"Why, for God's sake?" asks

X. "Do they think we're complete fools?" He cuts across my explanation of the Trades Descriptions Act to complain about KettleMaster™ chips: 'Hand-cooked, indeed! It's a bloody machine - read between the lines." I'm sure he has a point. As a fledgling barrister, he no doubt experienced the attentions of a PupilMaster™. who may well have flung him across a blue paper napkin. These things are deeply rooted. Mrs Victor Bartlett is

another one. As president of the Euterpe Club, she is a peerless authority on snack presentation. "Young people of today," she says, spitting out her denture-compatible bubble gum. "think they can get away with-out so much as a lipstick."

We meet in Selfridge's Hall Pulchritude, where I find her tottering about enjoying the attentions of the consultants. As an old bat, she cannot run fast enough to escape a barrage of unwanted beauty advice, and

and looking like Dirk Bogarde in the last throes of Death in Venice. We elbow our way into the Food Hall and hook an industrial-sized pack of Twiglets. She tells me about her hotline to "a very nice young man at the local library". She had stood over him as he hacked

into the Institute of Directors' database, fed "Twiglets" into one end and waited to see what galvanising information it disclosed. "Grey of original Twiglet packaging invests product with dullness". "In public trials, taste of Twiglets described by some respondents as 'a bit Richard Gere'", and reams of stuff about exploiting the Japanese market with a Bonsai version. "...Which is why presentation

is of paramount importance." Mrs Bartlett produces a blue napkin and spreads it on the gentlemen's toiletries counter. Prising open the packet, she deftly flicks the things. The Twiglets have landed in a graceful curve across the counter. A little crowd of interested shoppers has gathered to learn: "The key lies in the wrist action." The Bartlett sleeve is pulled up an inch and the manocuvre repeated for late-comers - a McEnroe-esque backnd with a touch o It is exactly like the "serving suggestion" on the packet. Mrs B nods modestly. At her time of life, a little consultancy

Fischer makes an unprecedented move

After 500 years, the greatest of the grandmasters has changed the rules of chess, says William Hartston

lennium, something is about to happen that promises to improve the quality of the leisure activities of tens of millions of people.

This afternoon, in La Plata, Argentina, Bobby Fischer will change the rules of chess. The last time the rules were altered significantly was in the 1490s, when the scope of the queen and bishop were considerably enhanced and modern chess was born out of a more tedious version that had then been around for 900 years.

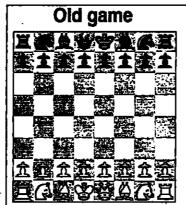
Bobby Fischer, 53, who won the world chess championship in 1972, has decided that while the rules were adcquate for half a millennium, they now need a little tinkering with. His proposal, to be launched today as a new tame called "Fischerandom Chess" is to dispense with the conventional placing of the pieces at the beginning of a game, instead shuffling the kings, queens and rooks at random among

he squares they usually occupy. After 500 years of intense study, the conventional starting position has

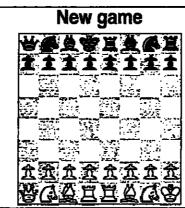
for only the second time in a mil-Fischer version would place an emphasis back on genuine skill and creativity rather than knowledge of opening variations.

The idea may have come to Fischer when he was preparing for his comeback match against Boris Spassky in 1992. After 20 years away from com-petitive chess, Fischer played some magnificently impressive games, but still seemed a little out of touch with modern theory. In his best years, he was always six months ahead of other grandmasters in his analysis of the most complex opening variations.
When shaking off two decades of rust, however, he simply avoided anything fashionable in his openings.

There is no reason for the new game to catch on "Improved" versions of chess are launched every few years three-dimensional, hexagonal, or 100square among others - but they have never succeeded in weaning the world's players away from their familiar territory. Yet the backing of Bobby Fischer could make all the difference.



For 20 years after winning the world championship, Fischer never pushed a pawn in competition. Indeed, his only known creative achievement was a pamphlet entitled I was tortured in the Pasadena Jailhouse - an account of his arrest on (totally unfounded) suspicion of a bank robbery. Yet the charisma of the name of Bobby Fischer is still highly potent. His match with Spassky in 1992 attracted a \$5m build his unique reputation. It also start of each game too.



purse - roughly three times the amount that the current champions, Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov, Walking out of tournaments,

demanding larger pawns (or smaller squares) on his chessboards, even having his lavatory seats lowered to meet his demanding specifications, all

helped to have been the strongest player who ever lived. And when he began his comeback match in 1992 by spitting on a letter from the US Internal Revenue Service, the legend of Bobby Fischer as modern American folk hero was perfected. The only trouble is that he can only return to America on penalty of arrest and a huge fine for "trading with the enemy" for his sanctions-busting crime of defying the IRS by competing in Yugoslavia.

Having beaten the Russians and confounded the Americans, Fischer is now taking up his most difficult challenge: the game of chess itself. And anyone doubting that the reclusive American can change the rules should take a look at the fortunes of US Patent Number 4,884,255; inventor Robert J Fischer: the Bobby Fischer Chess Clock. The clock helps a player allocate his time sensibly and has been a runaway hit on the back of the Fischer name. Perhaps in another few years, we will all be doing the Bobby Fischer's perfectionist traits helped to Fischer shuffle with our pieces at the

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Sir Fitzroy Maclean Bt

in history to the extraordinary 18 months he spent as Winston Churchill's special envoy to the Yugoslav leader Josip Tito in 1943-45. He sometimes expressed regret that, as with his hero Bonnie Prince Charlie, the historically significant portion of his life was compressed into 18 months at a comparatively young age. More dispassionate commentators would say that he packed an unbelievable amount into his 85 years. Maclean always believed in the motto that it was better to live a day as a tiger than a year as a donkey. but in fact he managed to combine the excitement of the one with the longevity of the other.

His background as member of a Scottish clan and its Jacobite connection was extremely important to him. "Thank God I am a Maclean" was the family motto.

Born in 1911 in Egypt, the son of an officer in the Cameron Highlanders, Fitzroy inherited from his father the martial tradition and from his mother the love of languages. Educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, where he took a First in Part One of the Classical Tripos, Maclean was initially drawn to the academic life but the crisis in Europe in the early 1930s convinced him he should enter the Diplomatic Service, then a tightly knit body numbering no more than 250 souls. After passing the stiffly competitive examinations, the young Maclean was marked down as "one to note".

His initial three-year posting was to Paris, which he saw in the troubled context of the Front Populaire years. Then, in 1937, instead of opting for a "fast track posting to Washington, he made what was considered an eccentric decision to plump for a posting in Russia. He arrived at the time of the great purge trials, and in February 1938 was in court daily for the nine-day trial of Nikolai Bukharin, later memorably recreated in his first book. Eastem Approaches. Through a close friendship with his opposite number in the German embassy, he was able to give advance warning of the likelihood of a Nazi-Soviet pact.

His two years in the Soviet Union were also memorable for the many unauthorised journeys be made to the eastern Soviet Union, principally Samarkand, Bokhara, Tashkent, Batum, Tiflis. He led the Russian secret service agents, who dogged his steps, a merry dance, travelling on trucks and second-class trains. But he was adamant that he made these journeys for his own self-realisation and was

In 1939 he was transferred to But his success in these missions misled Churchill about the true proaches was a best-seller in the 1970s.

London, to the Russian desk of later led his friend Ian Fleming situation in Yugoslavia and, the Foreign Office's Northern to base aspects of the character even more absurdly, that he was books he wrote afterwards was a best-seller in the 1970s.

Colleague for the last 12 years the (haw. Usually through KT 1993; married the Hon Mrs of his 33 years as a Member of George Wigg, Maclean recip- (Veronica) Phipps (née Fraser, the Foreign Office's Northern to base aspects of the character even more absurdly, that he was books he wrote afterwards was a best-seller in the 1970s.

The steep downward spiral of his 33 years as a Member of George Wigg, Maclean recip- (Veronica) Phipps (née Fraser, the Foreign Office's Northern to base aspects of the character even more absurdly, that he was books he wrote afterwards was towards disaster in Yugoslavia

Fitzroy Maclean owes his place Department. He had always wanted to emulate his father and be a soldier, so when war broke out in September he was eager to sign up with a combat regiment. But the Foreign Office counted as a reserved ocelapsed. Poring through service regulations. Maclean discovered the loophole he was looking for: on election as an MP, a Foreign Office man was obliged to resign. Using his charm and considerable diplomatic skills, he got himself adopted as the Conservative candidate at the 1941 by-election in Lancaster. He then immediately enlisted as a private in the

> For an Etonian diplomat and prospective Member of Parliament to enter the ranks in such a crack regiment was an extraordinary thing to do, and the singularity of the decision has perhaps not been sufficiently underlined. Rubbing shoulders with tough squaddies from the Gorbais was a key formative process. Elected MP for Lancaster, he was now safe from recall to the Foreign Office.

Cameron Highlanders.

After basic training Maclean was commissioned as a lieutenant and seconded to an élite commando unit being trained in Cairo to destroy the Baku oilwells on the Caspian - a bizarre project to have been entertained against the property of an ally but one thought necessary if the German army broke through in the Caucasus. The project was soon shelved, so Maclean, at a loose end in Cairo, accepted an invitation from David Stirling to join the newly formed Special Air Service. It is on his daring exploits behind enemy lines with Stirling that his reputation as war hero securely rests.

On one occasion, while trying to mine Benghazi harbour, Maclean posed as an Italian officer and, in fluent Italian. roundly berated the sentries for inattention while mounting sentry duty. Seemingly a man oblivious to danger and with nine lives, Maclean had his only near brush with death after a car crash resulting from Stirling's reckless style at the wheel. He was unconscious for four days after the crash and later remarked: "David Stirling's driving was the most dangerous thing in World War Two!"

part in another raid on Benghazi and was then employed by General "Jumbo" Wilson in Persia (Iran) on a further mission, to arrest the pro-Nazi governor-general of Isfahan, General Zahidi. His rapid promotion, from lieutenant to brigadier in two years, pro-In 1939 he was transferred to But his success in these missions misled Churchill about the true proaches was a best-seller in the 1970s.

On recovery, Maclean took

of James Bond on Maclean. More importantly, they con-vinced Winston Churchill that Maclean was the right man to head a military mission to Tito and the partisans in Yugoslavia. Since 1941 Tito had been pin-

ning down more and more German divisions in a highly successful guerrilla war. But there was another faction in Yugoslavia: the royalists and their military arm, the Chetniks, led by General Draza Mihailovic. Maclean's task was to find out, in Churchill's words, "who was killing the most Germans", regardless of political ideology or affiliation. Maclean's unorthodox methods, his refusal to go through channels, and the fact that he was known to have Churchill's ear, infuriated Special Operations Executive, who felt that he vas meddling in areas that were properly theirs. Friendly critics dubbed Maclean "the Balkan brigadier", "the Scarlet Pimpernel" and even (from his penchant for Highland dress) "Lothario in a kilt". Inveterate enemies, like SOE's Brigadier Mervyn Keble, had a less complimentary spread of

Maclean parachuted into Yugolavia with his mission in September 1943. His subordinates were a motley crew, some firstrate technicians, others mere prima donnas such as Randolph Churchill and Evelyn Waugh. Maclean built up a personal rapport with Tito which never faded, established a supply lifeline which ensured that the guerrillas received arms and material from the West, and managed the problem of "cohabitation" with a prickly Soviet military mission, also attached to Tito. He discovered that the partisans were bearing the overwhelming brunt of the war and reported to Churchill accordingly.

nouns and epithets.

For nearly two years, based either on the Adriatic island of Vis or in the Yugoslav interior, Maclean and his companions shared the fluctuating fortunes of Tito and the partisans, cul-minating in the triumphant battle of Belgrade in October 1944, when the partisans co-operated effectively with Stalin's Red Army to destroy German military strength in the country. Maclean also acted as gobetween in an acrimonious meeting between the Yugoslav leader and Churchill in Naples in August 1944.

When Tito came to supreme power in Yngoslavia after the war and executed Mihailovic, the cry arose that Britain should never have supported Tito and the Communists but should have made Mihailovic and the Chemiks the target for their military aid. For nearly 50 years the canard persisted that Maclean



"soft on Communism". Several comments are in order.

First, Maclean was always a fervent anti-Communist and man of the Right. But he was a realist, unable to deny the evidence of his senses for ideological reasons, and he had a clear, military, non-political mandate from Churchill. Secondly, Tito would have prevailed in Yugoslavia with or without British aid, but the British connection was allimportant psychologically when Tito broke with Stalin in 1948 to pursue an independent, nonaligned, "Third Way" style of Communism. Thirdly, Mihailovic and the Chemiks were the military arm of Greater Serb nationalism. Events since the break-up of Yugoslavia in 1989

have tarnished the credibility of

Serb nationalism. It is ironic that

it took the horrors of the Yu-

goslav civil war before the claque of anti-Maclean tongues

was finally silenced. Tito's calibre as a leader was fully demonstrated by the Herculean task he performed in keeping Yugoslavia united for 35 years after the war. It will be surprising if he does not gain stature as post-war history is reassessed, and such revisionism can only vindicate the correctness of the advice Maclean gave Churchill in 1943-45.

Maclean the war hero found it difficult thereafter to find a niche for his unique talents. His quite so well received. He continued as Conservative MP for Lancaster until 1959 when, wanting a Scottish constituency, he became the member for Bute and North Ayrshire, and served there until 1974. Churchill appointed him Under-Secretary of War in 1954, where he had an important behind-the-scenes role during the Suez crisis of 1956, but

Harold Macmillan sacked him in 1957, allegedly for poor performances in the House. Created a baronet in 1957, Maclean branched out in other directions. He ran his own hotel, "The Creggans", on the shore of Loch Fyne. He became a respected associate producer, writer and presenter of television travel documentaries, specialising in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Above all, he was a tireless traveller. He travelled light, with a kithag containing a Russian novel and an ancient classical author, both in. the original. At an age when

edge of French, Italian, German, Russian, Serbo-Croat, Latin and Greek. An admirer of Margaret Thatcher, he steered her through the intricacies of Yugoslav politics, advised her to put her political money on Gor-

most people have given up on linguistic ambitions, Maclean

continued to hone his knowl-

bachev in 1985, and acted as special adviser to the Prince of

Bill Hughes

after Tito's death in 1980 deeply saddened him. One of only three foreigners allowed to own property in the country during the Tito period. Madean spen a good part of each year at his seaside villa on the Adriatic

island of Korcula.

A man of great physical courage and enormous charm, Fitzroy Maclean was certainly the last of a breed, a real-life imperial adventurer in the tradition of Kim and Richard Hannay and an action man in the mould of Sir Richard Burton and, his own special hero, Bonnie Prince Charlie. He loved food and drink, good conversation and the company of pretty women. The initial image of a haughty, suave, privileged Etonian gave way, for those who knew him well, to a man with an advanced sense of humour and the absurd. The patrician persona masked an essentially simple man, with a rugged humanity that seemed to belie the breadth of his interests; there was nothing of the oddball about Maclean.

Politically he was the kind of Conservative who believes in order and hierarchy rather than original sin, and he expressed an optimistic view of human nature. He liked other human beings and was at ease with people from all walks of life, from dustmen to duchesses.

Frank McLyun

say anything simplistic. Had the House of Commons been televised when he and his

generation, Conservative and Labour, were in the autumn of their parliamentary careers, a different impression would have been created on the viewer. These were people who had come to politics from very different experiences, and had done their apprenticeship not as political researchers, but on the anvil of world war danger. Their presence enhanced the House of Commons as a serious forum of the nation. In the early 1960s it simply would not have occurred to any of the generation of new MPs to be rudish or cheekyish to Maclean and his contemporaries.

prime minister, Harold Wilson handled the questions of such as Sir Fitzroy Maclean, Brigadier Sir John Smyth Bt VC, Commander Sir John Maitland RN and Air Commodore Sir Arthur Vere Harvey with gingerly deference. Maclean's political impor-tance lies not in the office he

Furthermore, as incoming

held as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for War but in his personal relationships over 30 years particularly with leading Conservatives, such as Churchill and Macmillan. Harold Wilson knew that Maclean had been one of the prime movers in Macmillan's visit to

prime minister his best advice I never heard Fitzroy Maclean ind contacts in Eastern Europe. Unsurprisingly Maclean was cool about Aiec Douglas-Home and the only occasion on which I saw Maclean verging on anger was when, in 1971, his foreign secretary had expelled 90 Russian diplomats. "It was an indulgent and expensive gesture which could serve no useful long-term purpose." Who else, agam, but Maclean would tell Winston Churchill to his face that his speech at Fulton, Missouri, in 1946 coining the phrase "Iron Curtain" and ushering in the Cold War was unwise to the point of being ridiculous?

The day after John Smith's funeral the then government Chief Whip, Richard Ryder, said to me, "As we passed you in our official car the Prime Minister and I wondered who on earth was that man with you bent double struggling up the pavement with such courageous gallantry and tried to place him." "Firroy Maclean," I said "detemined to come to say goodbye to his Labour friend of the Scotland/USSR Association "A legend," said Ryder. A legend of courageous gallantry.

Fittroy Hew Maclean, diplomat, soldier, politician, writer: hom Cairo 11 March 1911: MP (Conservative) for Lancaster 1941-59. for Bute and North Avrshire 1959-74; CBE (mil) 1944; Parliamentary Under-Secretary of



Bill Hughes, typesetter, of Worcester, was the last of his kind. There is no one left who has either his skill or experience. and he must have been one of the very few men, or women. who had a working career of over 66 years in the same trade. He was apprenticed as a printer in Loughborough in 1923 and trained as a Monotype operator, a skill he practised until illhealth caused him to stop

working some two years ago. His father was a dentist but Bill did not want to follow him and on the advice of his headmaster he went into printing. After training at Leicester College of Art (where he took

First Class honours in every subject) he moved around the country and in the Thirties settled in Worcester, where he remained for the rest of his life. When he entered printing,

the Monotype caster had more or less completed its takeover of the trade. For nearly 450 years after Gutenberg invented the technique of printing from movable type, every bit of printing, from Bibles to newspapers, was produced from type set by hand. That meant that every letter, every space, every bit of punctuation, was picked up from the case by an operator, arranged in lines, fastened together in a frame, was inked and had a sheet of paper pressed against it. And, after all that, every letter and so on had to be cleaned of ink and replaced in the correct compartment of the case.

In the last few years of the 19th century, mechanical typesetting was invented but did not have any impact on the trade until after the First World War. In the next decade Monotype machines took over all typesetting except for newspapers.
They were complicated af-

fairs, in two parts: the key-board which produced a roll of paper with holes punched in it, and the caster. The roll was fed into this and controlled the ac-

tual casting of molten metal into years he cast type in his small type, spaces, and punctuation sort of cross between a competent typist, a highly skilled mechanic accustomed to working to micrometric tolerances, and a lavout artist.

Such men rarely lacked work and Hughes found plenty in Worcester, which at that time had more printing firms than a city of its size warranted. When he retired in the early 1970s, as the computer revolution was beginning, he bought a couple of casters and a keyboard, and in 1973 set up in business for himself as Solotype. For over 20

On 25 March 1991 Mr Ben-

ham appeared before Poole

Magistrates' Court on an ap-

plication by Poole Borough

Council, under regulation 41 of the Community Charge (Ad-ministration and Enforcement)

Regulations 1989 (SI 438), for

an order committing him to prison for non-payment of a

charge of £325. He was not rep-

resented by a lawyer, though he

was eligible for "Green Form" legal advice and assistance be-

fore the hearing, and the jus-tices could have made an order

for assistance by way of repre-sentation ("Abwor") if they had thought it necessary. The

justices found that Mr Ben-

ham's failure to pay the com-

munity charge was due to his

"culpable neglect" within reg-ulation 41 and sentenced him

On his appeal by case stated, the Queen's Bench Di-

visional Court held that the jus-

tices had erred in finding

to 30 days' imprisonment.

workshop on the quayside at which were then arranged into Upton-on-Severn, about eight lines. The operator had to be a miles from Worcester. Whenever the Severn flooded he had to sandbag his doors, and once or twice had to carry his electric motors up to his first-floor

office. For many years now type has all but disappeared from the printing trade. Bill Hughes made his living from the few small printers who continued using type - fewer and fewer as time went by. But the market in which he took most pride was the private presses, from the hobby-printer to those large presses which are run on com-

mercial lines and produce mag- in the local pub at Upton (there nificent volumes eagerly sought after by collectors. His first customer was the late

Dame Hildelith Cumming, who transformed the press at Stanbrook Abbey, outside Worcester, so that it became known throughout the world for its excellence. He set the type for most of her books and that fact alone is the best comment that can be made about Hughes's skill and workmanship. His later customers, including the Whittington, Fleece and Rocket Presses, regularly won printing awards with their books. Bill Hughes was a delightful

companion, whether gossiping

operating his machinery. He was so familiar with it that even when his eyes began to give him trouble towards the end of his life he was still able to keep up his standards. Besides his widow, Nora.

are three within 50 yards of his

workshop) or in the shop itself.

he leaves a son, Alan, and two grandsons; all three are

F. E. Parde

William Hughes, printer: born Hammerwich, Staffordshire 20 September 1912; married 1937 Nora Lock (one son); died Worcester 21 May 1996.

Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

DEATHS

LUND: Engel, singer, in Reykjavík, on 15 June. Born 14 July 1900. Unique artist and friend.

WALLS: Constance Mary, formerly of Goldsborough Nursing Home, Black-heath, and lived in East Dulwich, died peacefully after a long illness, on 14 June 1996. Funeral 1.30pm, 21 June, Honor Oak Crematorium. No flow-

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS please telephone 0171-293 2011 or far to 0171-293 2010. Charges are \$6.50 a line (VAT extra).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS Vincen Rayal. President of the Patrons, Crime era, stands a Pradental Vanth Action Assemb nouve il Pradental Corporation. London ECI; as transfari in Classi, Women's Bransport Service YI, attends the Open Day Lundoneut at Mercury Public Code! A Headman (1981). Judies SEP!

Changing of the Guard

Mr Robert Ainsworth MP, 44; Sir Michael Alexander, former UK Permanent Representative, Nato, 60; Dr Neil Chalmers, Director. Natural History Museum, 54; The Right Rev John Dennis, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, 65; Li-Gen Sir Peter Duffell, Inspector General, Doctrine and Training, Ministry of Defence, 57; Miss Ena Evans, Headmistress, King Edward VI High School, Birmingham, 58; The Right Rev John Hind, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, 51; M Louis Jourdan, actor, 77; Mr Bryan Kneale, sculptor, 66; Rear-Admiral Sir Morgan Morgan-Giles, former MP, 82; Brigadier Eileen Nolan, former Director, WRAC, 76; Mr Michael O'Brien MP, 42; Mr Raymond Powell MP, 68; Sir Francis Purchas, a formatical director of the property of the p

tion, 71; Mr David Somerset, Fellow and Financial Adviser, Peterhouse, Cambridge, 66: Dom Antony Sutch. ster, Downside Scho Miss Kathleen Turner, actress, 42; Mr Rory Underwood, rugby player, 33; Mr Edmund Vestey, chairman, Blue Mr Edmund Vestey,

en Mr. do. Sar Fancis Futchas, a 161-mer Lord Justice of Appeai, 77; Mr Salman Rushdie, novelist, 49; Sir John Sheil, judge of the High Court of Northern Ireland, 58; Sir Alfred Shepperd, former chairman and chief executive, Wellcome Founda-

Anniversaries Births: Blaise Pascal, mather

Birthdays

lis Warfield, Duchess of Windsor, Barrie, author and playwright, 1937; Jean Arthur, actress, 1991; Sir Jean Arthur, actress, 1991; Sir William Gerald Colding, novelist, 1993. On this day; King Louis XI of France created a (private) Royal Mail service, 1464; an Act was passed founding the Metropolitan Police, 1829; all German titles and names were renounced by the British Royal Emilliants. al Family, who adopted the name Windson, 1917. Today is the Feast Day of St Bruno-Boniface, St Deodatus or Dié, Saints Gervase and Protase, St Juliana Falconieri, St Odo of Cambrai and St Romuald.

Lectures

Victoria and Albert Museum: Lesky Hoskins, "William Morris Wallpa-pers", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Elizabeth Lebas, "Lon-don: viewing beyond the gallery (ii). Bermondsey inter-war films",

London Lighthouse

A service to mark the 10th anniversary of London Lighthouse was held yesterday in Westminster Abbey, London SW1. The Very Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, officiated. The Lighthouse Choir, Jonathan Stallick, Martin Neary, Andrew Watts, and the Fink Singers provided the music. The BBC Elstree Concert Band played

Poll tax defaulter facing gaol entitled to legal aid

(7/1995/513/597); European Court of Human Rights: 10 June 1996. A person facing committal to

prison for up to three months for non-payment of community charge or council tax was charged with a criminal offence" for the purposes of article 6, paras 1 and 3(c) of the European Convention on Human Rights, and the lack of provision for free legal repre-sentation at such proceedings was a violation of his right to a fair hearing.

The European Court of Hu-man Rights unanimously up-held a complaint by Stephen Andrew Benham, which had been referred to the court by the European Commission of Human Rights and by the UK government. But the Court rejected by a majority Mr Benham's claim that his imprisonment for non-payment of community charge consti-tuted a violation of his right to liberty and security of person under article 5 of the

LAW REPORT

19 June 1996

decision to commit him to ment; Mrs J. Liddy, delegate, for prison would have been wrong the Commission; Ben Emmerson even if there had been evidence of culpable neglect because at the time of the hearing he lacked the means to pay the

Article 6 provides that in "the determination of ... any crum-inal charge against him, every-one is entitled to a fair bearing" (para 1) and, by para 3(c),

to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or, if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, to be given it free when the interests of justice so require.

The applicant submitted that the committal proceedings were criminal in nature and the interests of justice required him to be represented before the justices.

Office, and M. Collon, Lord Chan-

culpable neglect, and that the cellor's Department) for the Govern

The Court ruled that although the proceedings in question were classified in English law as civil rather than criminal their nature and the nature and degree of severity of the penal-ty were such as to justify the conclusion that Mr Benham

David Pannick QC and P. Duffy (M.

and Professor A. Bradley (John Wadham, Liberty) for the applicant.

was "charged with a criminal offence" for the purposes of article 6, paras 1 and 3.

It was not disputed that Mr Benham lacked the means to pay for legal assistance. The only issue was whether the interests of justice required him to be provided with free representation at the committal hearing. In answering that question, regard must be had to the severity of the penalty at stake and the complexity of the

The Court agreed with the Commission that, where deprivation of liberty was at stake, the interests of justice in principle called for legal representation. In this case, Mr Benham faced a maximum term of three months' imprisonment.

Furthermore, the law which the justices had to apply was not straightforward. The test for culpable negligence in particular was difficult to understand and operate, as shown by the fact that, in the Divisional Court's judgment, the justices' finding could not be sustained on the evidence.
Under neither the Green

Form nor the Abwor schemes was Mr Benham entitled as of right to be represented.

In all these circumstances. the interests of justice demanded that, in order to receive a fair hearing, Mr Benham, ought to have had free legal representation during the proceedings before the justices. It followed that there had been a violation of article 6.

Paul Magrath, Barrister

£3bn borrowing surge dampens tax hopes

DIANE COYLE

Labour pledges facts and

figures

Budget shrank even further yesterday with the news that government spending was 13.2bn more than its income last month. Without £1.1bn in primonth. Without £1.1bn in pri-vatisation revenue from the showed borrowing adjusted for sale of Railtrack the gap in the Government's finances would

have yawned even wider.

Adam Cole, an economist at stage last year. brokers James Capel, said it left Kenneth Clarke with only one policy lever to pull ahead of the the figures called into question

election - lower base rates". In the Chancellor's claim that pub-The Chancellor's scope for responsible tax cuts in the next budget into balance in the medium term was a key policy aim, and he would make sure it

was achieved.

But the City was disappointed privatisation receipts was higher in the first two months of this financial year than at the same

Andrew Smith, shadow chief secretary to the Treasury, said

Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman Malcolm Bruce said: "It is clear the Government is heading for another blow-out

on borrowing this year." Mr Clarke is expected to adjust upwards his target for the public sector borrowing re-quirement when the Treasury publishes its new economic forecast next month.

City experts think the total for a reduction in real terms. 1996/97 could be up to £80n higher than the current target

modities trading in the US. Among firms it is believed to be

reviewing is Winchester Com-

In a statement confirming his

probe, John Tull, acting chair-

man of the CFTC said: "In or-

der to restore the confidence necessary for this market ... I

have directed the commission

staff to examine any and all re-

lationships, financial or other-

wise, between Sumitomo and

any of the business concerns

whose identies have surfaced or

will surface in the course of the

modities of the UK.

his Mansion House speech last lie borrowing was on a down-week the Chancellor insisted ward trend. shrinkage compared with last year's PSBR of £32.75m, itself £3bn higher than the target set

last November. The reason for their scepticism is the toughness of the expenditure plans. The Government has successfully held spending to its ambitious targets for the past three years, and has an increase of only 1.2 per cent planned this financial year. If this is achieved it would mean

Geoffrey Dicks, UK economist at NatWest Markets, believes a cut in real expenditure in the months ahead," Jonathan

election year".

Departmental spending grev 3.3 per cent in the year to May, down from April's 7.3 per cent increase but well above the target. Much of the over-run in financial year has been on the social security budget rather than across all departments, and it is probably too early to conclude that the pattern has

been set for the year as a whole. *The slowdown in spending growth in May is encouraging, but it will need to be maintained

Loynes, an economist at HSBC cent. However, revenue from Markets, said.

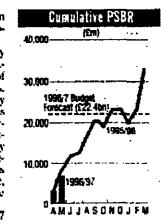
After the concern about missing" tax revenues towards the end of the last financial year, their growth has now started to overshoot the Treasury forethe first two months of the casts. Government receipts were 6.7 per cent higher in the year to May despite a 5 per cent fall in income tax revenues. A combination of high in-

come tax receipts last May and this year's tax cuts probably explains the drop.

VAT receipts, fingered as one of the main culprits for last year's shortfall, were up 16 per corporation tax, the other problem area in 1995 96, was tlat-

The headline PSBR in May was exaggerated by an unexpectedly small repayment of borrowing by local authorities. They were in surplus by only £100m this May, £500m less than a year ago. Local authority reorganisation might explain why they spent more early in the financial year. As local authority borrowing is more or less capped over the year as a whole. this disapointment will be reversed later on.

Comment. page 17



Sumitomo faces fresh claims it knew of losses

PETER RODGERS, and RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

\$1.8bn case.

that a number of senior officials at Sumitomo Corporation may have known for some time of loss-making trading accounts operated by the disgraced trader Yasuo Hamanaka, as US law officials began a criminal investigation into the

The US Attorney's office in New York opened a formal grand jury investigation to search for links between Mr schemes. Hamanaka and copper trading firms in the US.

This means criminal investigations are under way on both sides of the Atlantic, following an announcement last Friday that Britain's Serious Fraud Office is looking into the affair. The US Attorney's investi-

gation became known after Global Minerals & Metals Corporation in New York said it had been served with a subpoena on Monday requesting the production of documents.

Its founder, David Campbell, was also subpoenaed to testify before the grand jury, said Elliot Sloane, a spokesman for

"We're not the target here, at all, It's Hamanaka," added Mr Sloane. The company's lawyer, to comment. Peter Haveles, said: "The company is confident that at the end of the inquiry, it will be shown

Global was a large buyer and seller of copper on behalf of Sumitomo and it also acted as a broker, using accounts at Merrill Lynch and Rudolf Wolff in London, maintained in Sumitomo's name for hedging the Japanese giant's copper

exposure. Sumitomo has declared that Mr Hamanaka authorised these accounts by himself, against company rules, and there have been reports that they were secret devices operated as part of Mr Hamanaka's fraudulent

The corporation was trying to reassure us but it had the opposite effect since

they could answer so few questions'

Sumitomo said specifically on Monday that the Global accounts operated in its name were not authorised.

But both Global and Merrill said the brokerage accounts were properly authorised by Sumitomo at a level senior to Mr Hamanaka. Mr Sloane said Global ex-

pected to be able shortly to publish documentary evidence of this claim. Rudolf Wolff refused

Simultaneously, details also surfaced of a parallel civil ines Trading Commission,

commission's surveillance of the copper market." În Japan, Sumitomo's vice-

president, Mutsumi Hashimoto, gave an evasive performance, refusing to comment on reports linking Mr Hamanaka's copper trades with Global Minerals and Metals. Global, founded in 1993, is reported have had close ties with with Surpitomo to the extent that the securities house even offered to invest as much as \$3m to fund

Mr Hashimoto also left open quiry by the Commodities Fu- the possibility that Sumitomo may sue Mr Hamanaka and that

Mr Sloan confirmed that (CFTC), which is the main fed-lobal was a large buyer and eral body that oversees com-the Sumitomo president, Tomi ichi Akiyama, might resign and hinted that a proposed buy-up of the corporation's own shares, scheduled for a general shareholders' meeting on

27 June, was now in jeopardy. He added that the corporation would "thoroughly rein-force our internal control system," although he failed to explain how this might be

In a further unsuccessful attempt at damage limitation. Sumitomo gave a private briefing to securities analysts from major brokerages to answer questions about Mr Hamanaka's losses. "They were trying to reassure us, but in my case it had the opposite effect since they were able to answer so few of our questions," said Paula Sug-awara of Lehman Bros. "I still think there's a lot of bad news yet to come out. To be running up those kinds of losses and the company not to know seems in-

"We had expected the company to give us more details about the loss but they didn't, so it was very disappointing," said Kota Nakako, an analyst at SBC Warburg who has reversed his recommendation on Sumitomo from buy to sell. Sumitomo shares closed 20 yen higher at 1,030 yen, after a 200 yen fall on Monday.

Journalists have been unable to track down Mr Hamanaka, who is said by his daughter to have



Facing the music: There are growing doubts about the future of Tomilchi Akiyama (centre), the Sumitomo president

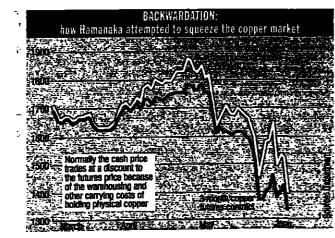
left the family home in Kawasaki, near Tokyo, late last week for an unknown destination. Sumitomo claims to have no knowledge of his whereabouts.

In London, Winchester Commodities Group said it would be happy to help any in-"vehemently denies" responsiquiry and "has nothing to bility for any Sumitomo losses.

It said it had had minimal involvement with Sumitomo in the last 12 months during which many brokers were heavily engaged representing the Japanese firm. Winchester said it quiry and fear".

The London Metal Exchange, which has stayed silent on the promised a statement today after a meeting of its copper specialists yesterday. The price of coptrade slowed to a trickle.

Nymex, the New York energy and metals market, has been campaigning for tighter regulation of the London Metal Exchange since well before the Sumitomo crisis emerged. per remained stable in London, because of concerns that \$10 higher at \$1,990 a tonne, but problems could spill over into the US.



Hamanaka cornered by betting against the market

NIC CICUTTI

By the time Sumitomo Corporation was forced to admit the scale of its buge losses at the hands of Yasuo Hamanaka, most back-street scrap metal merchants already knew who he was and what he was up to.

Their trade magazines had long been writing about the activities of "Mr Five Per Cent". the man able to determine the helter-skelter prices of the used

copper pipes and boilers they dealt in since at least 1993. The attention of the London

Metal Exchange, the premier world metals market, had been drawn three years ago to a sig-nificant squeeze taking place in the availability of copper.
In essence, the cash price of

copper - available at two days' notice - was higher than threemonth futures contracts for the same metal, a process known as

This is seen as unusual because the futures price takes into account the additional cost of warehousing, insurance and the use to which the money employed to buy copper might be put instead.

The conclusion reached by many brokers, including some who reportedly complained to the LME, was that Mr Hamanaka was involved in cornering the market for copper. Sumitomo, a significant end-

user of copper, has an interest in controlling its price, both to obtain the metal cheaply and to ensure that its future supply is obtained at stable prices. Mr Hanamaka's job was to deliver this supply to his employers and, where possible, to make any additional profits for the com-

pany from his dealing.

The rationale used by Mr Hanamaka in 1993, which ran contrary to market expectations, was that supply of copper

would lag behind demand for it in the short term and over a period of years. Although he denied rigging the market, some dealers suspected his comments indirectly explained the logic of Sumitomo's activities.

It is likely that over the past three years, not all of Mr Hanamaka's deals turned sour on him. In 1994, copper prices rose to about £2,000 a tonne. But by the beginning of this

mand would outstrip supply thereby driving up prices, led him to engage in deals in which he repeatedly aimed to make a profit from a rise he was hoping to engineer. As the graph shows, backwardation rose between March and May, reaching a peak earlier this month. By contrast, a number of US hedge funds, including one headed by George Soros and

the Tudor Fund, bet against him

that the market would fall,

Credit cards brush with NCC

CLIFFORD GERMAN

Customers who claim against their credit card companies when goods and services they bought are faulty or substandard are routinely being brushed aside and told to claim against the retailer, according to the National Consumer Council, the UK's official consumer

Trading to reinforce the existing rules on joint and several liability which give the consumer equal right of redress against the credit card company and the supplier of the goods and services.

Hong Kong Frankfurt

watchdog.
It wants the Office of Fair

a consumer adviser," the NCC said yesterday in response to a Department of Trade Industry consultation document. The NCC also wants to make

"At the moment, claimants are

fobbed off unless they can quote

the law and have the support of

sure that consumers are aware that they have an equal right of claim and has called on the OFT to ensure that credit card companies accept their responsibility to meet the full bill for claims, not just the amount

paid by card. The Credit Card Research Group, which represents virtually all the companies issuing

Mastercard and Visa cards in the UK, yesterday rejected the suggestion that it ignores widespread claims for faulty goods and sub-standard services.

It argues that 95 per cent of the 20,000 claims its members receive in an average year involve cases where the suppli-er has gone bankrupt, and the credit card company assumes liability.

Typically these are items such as holidays, furniture, comput-ers and mail-order goods for vance and await delivery. In the remaining cases, the CGRG agrees card companies

call should be the supplier of the goods. It also claims to have the reement of the Office of Pair Trading and the Consumer Association that this is a logical way of proceeding.
However, the NCC says its

evidence has come from trading standards officers and Citizens Advice bureaux. They believe that in many cases consumers are told to pursue the supplier through to the courts in an attempt to get justice, and are not reminded that under Section 75 of the Consumer Credit Act they have an equal right to claim against the card company.

Cowie drives away with British Bus in £302m deal

Cowie, the Sunderland-based motor dealer, is set to become Britain's third largest hus company following yesterday's £302m deal to acquire British Bus, writes Nigel Cope. The deal gives Cowie a 16 per cent share of the UK bus market.

It will also net British Bus founder Dawson Williams an estimated £10m. The company had been planning a flotation when details of a Serious Fraud Office enquiry into Mr Williams emerged last year.

Cowie will fund the deal through 1 for 3 rights issue priced at 355p, raising £186m.

Cowie will also take on British Bus' £100m of debt. British Bus is strong in the

Midlands, Yorkshire and the North West, while Cowie's beat is in north and south London. Cowie chief executive Gordon Hodgson described the deal as: The last remaining opportunity for a strategic acquisition of an independent business in the UK bus industry." He said the company was still looking for other deals.

Last year, British Bus made operating profits of £34m on sales of £261m. Cowie shares closed 3p higher at 409p.

GDP 130.3+1.1pc 124.8 28 June

Greene King snaps up Magic

ROGER TRAPP

Michael Cannon has made a fortune for the second time in three years by selling his Magc Pub chain to Greene King for nearly £200m. The deal, which Greene King

will partly finance through a £90m rights issue, will more than double the East Anglian brewers' managed house estate to 462 out of a total of 1,139 pubs. Mr Cannon, chairman of Magic Pub, is understood to have made about £70m from the deal. Managing director Philip Snook, finance director Tom Gill and the senior management team, who together owned 10 per cent of the company, also made a susbtantial amount, while much of the rest went to institutional investors led by

CINVen. Now in his mid-50s, Mr Cannon began in the leisure business as a Berni Inn chef and opened his first pub about 20 vears ago in Bristol. An early venture. Cannon lines, collapsed, but he later merged his other leisure interests into West Country pub chain Devenish.

Having fought off brewer Boddingtons in a bitter hid battle, he then sold Devenish to the pliers. In addition, 47 pub pubs, drinks and hotel operator. Greenalls, in 1993 for more than £200m. His share of that was about £25m, of which about half Countryside Inns.

was invested in Magic Pub. He has acquired a reputation as a low-cost renovator of pubs. Mr Cannon was not available for comment vesterday, but said in a statement: The business fits very well with Greene King and I am sure that this deal

will take it a long way."



Michael Cannon: £70m from the pub sale

Magic Pub is centred on London and the South and operates in three divisions. The main pubs operation has 209 outlets, of which 200 are managed. They are free houses, but have arrangements with suprestaurants are grouped under the Hungry Horse name, while 21 hotels and inns operate as

Regis change (Sangt

STOCK MARKETS

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Source: FT Information

	INTEREST RATES	3
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US .	5.47	6.03	6.88	_6.17	7.05	6.59
Jacan	0.47	0.93	3.26	2.85		
Germany	3.50	3.66	6.61	6.88	7.19	

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Leisure Corp	369	11	3.1	Eurotherm	605	32	5.0	Gak
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CURRENCIES

Carpetright rolls out the profits with right formula

right's results was similar to that regularly experienced by Next. A 200 of the core chain. The start-up of t fall in the share price because the Carpet concessions and figures were not even better. True, the results were at the lower end of expectations but a 28 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £25.2m is

value and regular promotions to keep the customers interested.

the target of 30 per cent by the end of the decade looks achievable.

Like-for-like sales improved by share figure in the UK, there is still

and the trend has continued since the April year-end.

This is even more impressive when you consider that the over-when you can be a second to the control of the provided that the over-when you can be a second to the control of the contr the April year-end.

To bolster sales, Carpetright offerered more special promotions, which shaved one percentage point off the margin, but that should be clawed back this year.

By the year-end Carpetright was trading out of 246 stores, including

The start-up of the Premier Carpet concessions and the larger Carpet Depot formats cost £1.6m last year. A further 30 Premier Carpet concessions should open in the next 12 months, taking the

would kill for a set of results such as these.

It is clear that Carpetright's chairman, the ever-ebullient Lord Harris of Peckham, has got his formula right: low prices, decent value and regular promotions to

special dividend or share buy-back, Carpetright already has 12 per cent of the UK carpet market and for store openings and a progres-

a staggering 13 per cent last year plenty more to go for in the raw material prices and inability to

all market shrank by 4 per cent last give the sector more visibility. Investors who bought Carpetright shares when they floated at 148p three years ago have seen their in-

vestment rise fourfold. With the shares down 290 to 594p yesterday and analysts foreTHE INVESTMENT COLUMN

Hazlewood to savour growth

Things could be looking up for Hazlewood Foods, the mixed bag of food companies which includes ready-made meals and pork and potato production. The company sounded a long-awaited note of optimism yesterday. The feeling is that last year's nightmare of rising pass on price increases to retailers

is now easing.

If this is a recovery, it would not be before time. The shares have been an appalling investment, underperforming the market by 65 per cent in the last five years.

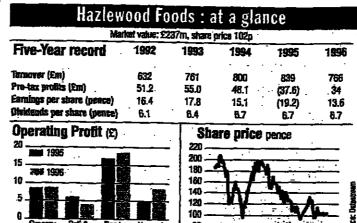
The company's problem has been a ragbag of often unrelated businesses that were too small to achieve market dominance. Management

EDITED BY NIGEL COPE

such as shellfish and ice cream though the paper and nappy businesses have yet to be offload.

compared with the previous year's £37m loss caused by restructuring provisions. More encouraging is the casting profits of £36m this year, have now sold volatile businesses they are trading on a slightly more sensible forward rating of 18. Fair though the paper and nappy businesses have yet to be offloaded.

provisions. More encouraging is the 4 per cent rise in like-for-like sales. But five or six years of restructuring is beginning to pay off.
The company bounced back to profits of £34m in the year to March. This



meals there is a push towards higher-value, higher-margin ranges.

Problem areas include the meat and deli business which is being ham-mered by rival Unigate's pork division. Profits fell by a third last year and the BSE scare will knock around £2m off the bottom line this year.

There is still an over-reliance on commodity businesses. And unlike most food groups, Hazlewood is moving closer towards the major supermarkets, which now account for 45 per cent of its business.

In the short term, Hazlewood should benefit from the more benign market conditions. But further out its exposure to supermarkets is still a worry. BZW is forecasting profits of £37m this year. With the shares unchanged at 102p, they trade on a forward multiple of nine. Hold.

First Leisure slow but sure

Investors who demand instant results should probably shy away from First Leisure, the kind of company for which the concept "medium-term" could have been invented. But patience is its own reward, and the company's careful, moderately on the results to close at 369p. Hold. patience is its own reward, and the

aggressive strategy looks as if it will bear fruit in time.

Pre-tax profits were up 5 per cent to £18m in the six months to April but stripping out asset disposals the figure was flat at £16.5m.

The National Lottery and scratch cards have taken their toll on discretionary spending, which affects all First Leisure's divisions such as bingo, bars and bowling. But compared with rival leisure companies, First Leisure has performed creditably. The company is hopeful that the drop in carach card sales will free up more cash or spending on other leisure pursuits.

First Leisure has also made good use of its cash flow, expanding its Brannigan brand bars, its Riva "new style" bingo halls and its lucrative night clubs. All three areas are good profit centres, and the company has earmarked another £50m in the next 18 months to build even more sites.

Longer term, the company may want to sell non-core assets, such as the rather tired resorts at Blackpool. But for now at least, they throw off

useful cash. With analysts expecting full-year pre-tax profits of £43m the stock is on a multiple of 19 times, falling to

WHAT'S THE SECRET OF CONTINENTAL AIR LINES' SUCCESS?

IS IT THAT WE HAVE MORE FLIGHTS TO NEW YORK FROM LONDON GATWICK THAN ANY OTHER AIRLINE?

IS IT THAT WE'VE DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC IN THE LAST YEAR?

IS IT THAT WE WERE NAMED BEST TRANSATLANTIC BUSINESS CLASS BY ENTREPRENEUR MAGAZINE FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW?

IS IT BECAUSE WE'RE THE ONLY BUSINESS CLASS TO OFFER COMPLIMENTARY LIMOUSINES IN OVER 125 U.S. CITIES?

MAYBE ...

Continental Airlines M



CITY DIARY

JOHN WILLCOCK

Rector makes small beer of ailing churches



Scottish & Newcastle and Bass had better watch out. A Sussex rector has floated his own brewery and he's got God on his side. Not that the Reverend Godfrey Broster of Plumpton Green has any very of the DTI's target areas unambitious plans for expansion der the Action Japan camor acquisitions.

He has launched Rectory Ales to help cover the horrendous repair bill for the three churches in his parish one Saxon, one 12th century and one 19th century. After all, he says, the main brewers before the Reformation in the 16th century were the monasteries.

Rather than pass the begging bowl around once again he has rounded up his parish flock and offered them 1.500 shares in Rectory Ales at £2 each, with a minimum subscription of £100 and a limit of £200.

"It's been over-subscribed," Mr Broster says proudly. "I got the idea from a prospectus for a flotation which I invested in myself."

He reckons brewing two or three barrels of traditional ales a week could generate profits of £1,000 in the first year. How about the dividend policy? "I hope to pay a dividend — I haven't said I won't — it all depends on trading. We'll have to wait and see." Local pubs have agreed to

take the strong Rector's Revenge (abv 5.4), Rector's Pleasure (abv 3.8) and Parson's Porter (abv 3.6). Any plans for lager? "Oh no, that needs cooling apparatus –
you'd really have to go big for
that. I do brew the odd stout
on request, though." And the
flotation's been done without without paying a penny in advisers' fees. A miracle.

A secondee from the Japanese version of the DTL, Miti, will soon be helping UK firms to develop more business - with Japan. Hideo Suzuki has started a two-year secondment to the DTI. Based in

the DTI's automotive directorate, he will work closely with the UK car industry to help build relationships with Japan and increase trade in the automotive sector - one paign. No doubt Mr Suzuki will help to rev up the motor

The Dispatches programme on Channel 4 tonight puts the boot into "the lucrative world of the liquidators - asking why hundreds of firms have been closed down, some perhaps unnecessarily - and exposing sharp practice among some smaller practitioners who engage in improper financial manoeuvring".

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All fair enough, I suppose, but it does seem to be kicking a sector when it's down. The senior partner at one of the biggest insolvency firms told me gloomily on Monday that "the trend for company collapses in the UK is still down. It probably won't go up again until 1998. We're having to lay people off." Poor things.

What is it with the Bulgarian football team? Not their defeat last night at the hands of the French in Euro96, but their constant switching of hotels in the North-east, to local chagrin. First Scarbor-ough council forked out £20,000 to put them up at a hotel, only for Hristo Stoitchkov to decide it was boring.

The Bulgarians then booked rooms in the Swallow, Stockton-on-Tees, which would have meant the Romanian team moving out on the double. Just as the Darlington council was crowing about this coup. Stoitchkov whipped his team off instead to the Holiday Inn in Seaton Burn, just six miles from Newcastle, where they

were playing.
Cue outrage from Darlington. "What kind of hotels are they used to in Bulgaria anyway?" pondered one observer.

Just when Will Hutton and his ideas on the "stakeholder economy" seem to be everywhere, here comes a bunch of busi-nesmen who have seen the light. The likes of Martin Sorrell of when the nave seen the light, the three of Martin Sorrell of WPP Group and Stuart Hampson, chairman of John Lewis, have signed up to help found the the Centre for Tomorrow's Company, a think-tank devoted to reforming British business. An inquiry by the Royal Society for the encouragement of the Arts, Manufacture and Commerce (RSA) forms the basis for

the group.

The report advocates the Hutton-ish "inclusive approach".

This is pretty touchy-feely stuff for hard-headed husinessmen.

"Until we free ourselves from adversarialism in business relationships, UK supply chains will continue to underperform."

No more price wars or contested bids, then?

Minorco will stake for 11.32 her accuse

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The Chancellor has fallen prey to a very human characteristic: on nearly all the important numbers he has been over-

optimistic, sometimes

hopelessly so'

Kenneth Clarke might have complete faith in his own handling of the UK economy (last week's Mansion House speech) but othtast week's Mansion House speech) but ouners would be forgiven for just the faintest little hint of doubt. This is nothing as dramatic
as full-blown atheism yet (always excepting
the Euro-sceptics, of course, who don't
count, anyway), but there is a growing band
of the mildly agnostic.

On most conventional measures, Mr Clarke's performance has indeed been a highly commendable one. But there is one area where he has fallen prey to a very human characteristic; on nearly all the important numbers he has been over-optimistic, sometimes hopelessly so. Public sector borrowing is just one. Even with the benefit of a £1.1bn net contribution to the Government's finances from the sale of Rail-track, the PSBR last month came in at £3.2bn. The likely overshoot for the year is now anything up to £8bn, which doesn't give a Chancellor promising sound public finances much, if any room, for tax cuts.

If borrowing were the only area of con-cern, then that might be thought acceptable, but it is actually symptomatic of a whole series of missed forecasts. The Chancellor has been persistently over-optimistic about the scope for improvement in public spend-

cent. Even inflation, though plainly tamed, is above target. Not so hot after all, eh?

If the Government were a publicy quoted company, it would never get away with such recklessly misleading predictions. The Treasury's persistent promises of jam tomorrow would long ago have been rattled, and its chief executive thrown overboard. But then a national economy is a rather more complex animal than even the largest of multinational corporations. The Chancellor perhaps deserves the benefit of the doubt, even if his characteristically relaxed view of the importance of forecasts smacks a little of

complacency. In any case, Mr Clarke's ever-so-convenient difficulty with the figures is hardly unique. It should be recalled that, on average, the PSBR overshoots forecast by £10bn a year. On that measure, the Chancellor isn't doing too badly. And don't forget, the Chancellor's aim is to get the budget back in balance only over "the medium term" (the Mansion House speech again). In Treasury

parlance, that's five years away.

But hold on a moment. Five years is a rather longer time horizon than the Treasury was forecasting for a balanced budget at the time of its last statement in November - one the scope for improvement in public spending. His growth forecast for this year looks way out of line, something which is expected to be corrected in new Treasury predictions next mouth that will cut the growth number from 3 per cent to perhaps as low as 2:5 per second of the scope for improvement in public spending. Year longer to be precise. It seems that once again hope is to be postponed. You don't need to be an expert on these matters to figure out why. If short-term forecasts don't matter very much, it is not going to be hard to make them justify a healthy package of

tax-cutting pre-election measures. No won-der Mr Clarke was able to insist in his Mansion House speech that policy was being set on the assumption the present Government would be re-elected. Wonderful thing, the

Clarke's difficulty with figures is worrying

Regulators cloud Southern battle

For the time being, the battle for South-em Water is in abeyance but it cannot be too long before the auction hots up once more with a new bid from ScottishPower. Bidding wars are nearly always bad news for the poor unfortunate that ends up with the prize. In this case, however, it is not just shareholders in the two rival bidders - Scottish and Southern Electric - that need to be concerned. Both bids involve a sizeable chunk

of debt. As a consequence, regulators too are becoming highly exercised by the possibility of overpaying.

Southern Water already has a quite substantial accumulated backlog of incomplete capital spending – its underspend could be as high as £300m. The last thing regulators want is an over-negated company incomplete. want is an over-geared company incapable of meeting its obligations. That way the customer will ultimately end up picking up the tab. The risk of this happening with the Southern Electric bid seem to be rather higher than with the Scottish alternative. The Southern Electric bid is essentially a defensive one to keep the Scots out. Southern | up. Some £30m was raised in March, £50m Electric may in these circumstances think | in April and £53m in May, with market participants predicting a substantial increase so the regulators, who have become increasingly concerned about the general trend towards equity concellation, and its replacement with debt, among the utilities. It may try. But these are mostly small companies well be they have something to say about 'sky's the limit" bidding wars.

Baby Aim is a bouncing one-year-old

Floday is the first anniversary of the Al-L ternative Investment Market, With a year under its belt, it's worth conducting a short health check. Aim was set up after a long wrangle over how how tightly it should be regulated. The compromise was a market with few rules, and with the main responsibility for ensuring that companies on Aim were honest and decent given to the nominated advisers who bring them to market.

In the event, there have been almost as many new issues on Aim as companies trans-

At the start Aim was slow to produce new money for companies, but then things picked

this month. This may not sound large compared with the venture capital needs of British indus-

and it is the numbers of new entrants that

count + a total of 13 in May alone. It is hard to buy a large line of shares without moving the price excessively, so larger deals are naturally taking place off market. Increasing the liquidity of the market will remain a key objective. Even so, Itory & Sime Baronsmead, which raised £44m this spring to invest in an Aim investment trust. is said to be ahead of its target of investing half the funds within three months, and the trading volume of 4.2 stocks has trebled once they moved over to Aim. On the whole then, Aim is fulfilling its purpose of providing a market, and a source of capital, for smaller

companies.

The main question mark now is over how the Exchange copes with the collapses that are inevitable in a market of more than lost from the old Rule 4.2 market and from the unsuccessful USM, which is being phased out at the end of the year. In the 11 months to the end of May, SU new entrants to Aim raised £347m new money. Another 82 companies transferred from the 4.2 market and two from the USM.

At the start Aim was alow to produce new to be in the fact the babe weems to be in bility. But thus far, the babe seems to be in

Minorco sells 10% Matthey stake for £132m

ROGER TRAPP

Minorco, the South Africanowned natural resources group, has pulled out of the precious metals and specialist ceramics group Johnson Matthey by selling its near-10 per cent stake to broker SBC Warburg for

Warburg was understood to be seeking to place the stock at about 625p a share. Johnson Matthey closed down 20p at

630p.
The company – which is owned by Anglo American, the Oppenheimer family and De Beers, and chaired by Julian Ogilvie Thompson – explained that the sale of the 9.9 per cent holding was part of a programme of disposals designed to strengthen the company's balance sheet as it prepared to



Julian Oglivie Thompson: raising cash assets

develop several significant mining projects around the world. Explaining that the stake had been a "non-strategic invest-ment", a Minorco spokeswoman said that the company had been "a totally different animal" when the Johnson Matthey shares were acquired from Charter Consolidated at

490p in February 1993. For example, Minorco had wanted to be exposed to the platinum market, she said. Recently, Minorco acquired

several mines at various stages of development and estimates that these will require funding of about \$2bn, half of which will come from the Minorco balance sheet. As a result, Minorco is looking to increase its cash

Minorco sold a 9.6 per cent holding worth about \$82m in US oil and gas company Santa Fe Energy Resources. A month later, it received a

total of about \$250m by disposing of an 18.9 per cent stake in Australian mining group Normandy Mining and a 3.7 per gold mining arm, PosGold.

The spokeswoman said Minorco would be reviewing the situation and selling other investments as the need arose. Last year, Minorco, whose chief executive is Hank Slack, announced a 51 per cent increase in underlying profits,

IN BRIEF

 Japan's economy grew by 3.0 per cent in the first quarter of 1996 compared with the previous three months - the strongest quarterly performance since the beginning of 1973 before the impact was felt of the first oil shock. Gross domestic product rose by an annual rate 12.7 per cent. Growth was boosted by almost every category, from consumption to capital expenditure to government spending and housing investment. Weak exports and strong imports were the only negative factors on growth.

US housing starts in May fell by 4.7 per cent to 1.43 million.
 Higher mortgage rates and rising borrowing costs for builders were blamed for the larger-than-expected drop.

• Marks & Spencer's top five directors made almost £1.5m from the exercise of share options last year. Chairman Sir Richard Greenbury, whose salary rose marginally to £816,000, made £266,000. Deputy chairman Keith Oates made £317,000. Three other directors. Guy McKracken, Peter Salsbury and Andrew Stone, careful in crations worth £340,000. cashed in options worth £340,000, £352,000 and £208,000

• Cable & Wireless will make £60m from the sale of a stake in Asia Satellite Communications, which is joining to the Hong Kong stock market today. C&W is reducing its holding in AsiaSat from 33.3 per cent to 23 per cent. Its new stake is worth £150m, based on the public offer price of HK\$20 per share.

 BT said its 'friends and family' discount scheme now has over 5 million residential subscribers. The scheme offers 10 per cent savings on calls to five nominated telephone numbers. Membership has doubled since the £4.99 joining fee was scrapped in April and the discount increased from 5 per cent.

• First Bus, Britain's largest bus company, reported an 11 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £22m last year due to restructuring costs. Operating profits rose from £32.6m to £35m. The figures exclude the Greater Manchester Bus and SB Holdings of Glasgow acquisitions, which were made after the year-end.

■ The European Commission is expected to delay until next week a decision to outlaw DM240m (£103m) in subsidies granted to an investment by German car-maker Volkswagen in Saxony, eastern Germany. The package is belping VW finance car and engine plants in Saxony intended to increase production of the Golf marque. The total cost of the investment is put at

 Chiroscience confirmed it was being sued for alleged wrongful dismissal by a former deputy chairman, but the drugs firm said the case was without basis and unlikely to succeed. A spokesman for the company said Nowell Stebbing was also claiming alleged wrongful removal of share options worth up to £5.5m.

 Banner Homes is halving its interim dividend to 0.7p after annual pre-tax profits fell from £1.27m to £751,000. Dwindling supplies of land are forcing land prices above previous peaks, Banner said.

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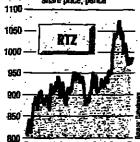


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SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, penca



Barclays, the banking group, and BTR, the suffering conglomerate, dominated a lacklustre stock market. The bank's story was one of opti-mism with the shares said to be heading for 900p, but for BTR

it was another round of anxiety and uncertainty.

In busy trading Barclays rose 18p to 800p with the market enjoying its adroit sale of part of its 3i shareholding and continuing to speculate it has a big deal on its banking floor, perhaps the flotation of its Bar-clays de Zoete Wedd invest-

ment side.
Rumours BZW is set to be demerged have been flying around the market for some weeks. In some quarters the 3i deal is seen as a forerunner to

scribe for one new share at 258p in the 30 days following

September's interim report. The latest decline was sparked by stories that big in-vestors were being sounded out about a possible dividend cut; a reduced profit forecast by

BZW and suggestions the con-glomerate had called analyst meetings for next week. BTR refused to confirm any meetings had been arranged. We never comment on mar-

ket rumours,", was the company's response to inquiries. The group has three sets of warrants outstanding. This year's would produce £240m; next year's £350m and the 1997 warrants £425m. There is little doubt BTR

would sorely miss the income certainly been factored into its

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter of the year

the copper market appeared more stable and Johnson

Cheerful Barclays and despondent BTR steal limelight

health-care group, stretched to a new high of 215.25p as take-over hopes mingled with prospects for its artificially grown skin development, but Cariton Communications was 1998 version is now down to 6p. The strike price is 405p.
The rest of the market had another uneventful session with the FT-SE 100 index giv-ing up 5.1 points at 3,756.4. Hopes are rising that Scot-tishPower is on the verge of liftcaught out by suggestions that Disney was cutting back film production which would hit its ing its offer for Southern video operations.

A 3.08 million sale at 509p also contributed to a 15p fall

Its first splash, £1.5bn, was topped by Southern Electric's £1.6bn. Scottish shares were littie changed at 305p; they have felt the strain of bid action and as the proceeds have almost certainly been factored into its month low.

group. It was unclear whether Warburg managed to place all pension price. The company, now called Columbus, closed

The latest round in the superstore hostilities left Tesco off 5.5p to 300.5p. Asda, which also had to contend with the added

setback over its drugs price bat-tic, lost 1.5p to 118.25p. Cable & Wireless rose 9p to 420p following the flotation of Asia Satellite Communications in Hong Kong; its 33 per cent has been cut to 23 per

cent, netting £60m.
Greene King, the East Anglian brewer splashing out £197.5m for The Magic Pub to 513p.
RTZ improved 11p to 983 as

Co, rose 24p to 692p.

Fibernet, planning a national high-speed network, produced a wire-humming debut, touching 139p and set-

Bardon, the aggregates group which has attracted considerable speculative interest in the past, held at 38.75p. A US investment house, Tweedy Browne, has acquired a 3.4 per

cent interest. Mayflower, a specialist engineer, fell 13.5p to 108.5p as its ambitious £172m takeover of the US Pullman group, was abandoned following a rival

Manchester Utd continued to dip, reflecting last week's batch of director share sales. The price fell 19p to 441p. A Merrill Lynch recommendation added 3p to Wembley at

Details are due this week of the flotation of London & Edinburgh Publishing, producing commemorative brochures for such events as this week's Royal Ascot. Around £1.5m is being raised through the sale of 30 per cent of the company. L&E is also deeply involved in event advertising and is thinking of running a duty-free shopping service on the Internet. John East & Partners and Fiske & Co are handling the flotation

TAKING STOCK

A De Gruchy, running Jersey's top department store, continues to attract attention. Merchant Retail Group, which operates the Jopling stores, has acquired another 136,400 shares, lifting its

which is expected to value the

company at around £4.5m.

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Equity rules: Producer condemns eccentric decision as leading actor fails to land Broadway role because he lacks 'star status'

Why Gambon isn't big enough for States

MARIANNE MACDONALD

Michael Gambon has been refused permission to recreate a West End role on Broadway because Americans do not con-sider him a big enough star, it emerged yesterday.

The National Theatre had

hoped to transfer Robert Fox's production of David Hare's play Skylight, about an affair between a restaurateur and a radical young teacher, to New York with Gambon in the lead

But, following talks, American Equity has refused to let Gambon perform, arguing that the actor who played the lead in Dennis Potter's The Singing Detective is of insufficient "star

Its prohibition was confirmed by a spokeswoman at the Na-tional Theatre, where Gambon played the part of Tom Sergeant when Skylight opened last year. American Equity, the American actors' union, to comment on the decision described by Mr Fox as 'eccentric".

Complicated rules presided over by the actors' union mean it can be extremely difficult for British actors to play in America if, like Gambon, they are not passed under the star status rule.

Producers are then obliged to prove that there is no American actor who can replace him or her in the part in question by carrying out auditions throughout the country.

The only alternative is for an actor to go to America under the exchange scheme, which allows an American actor of similar status to play in Britain in a straight swap.

Those who have previously fallen foul of Equity's perception of their star status (or otherwise) in America include Juliet Stevenson, who could not take her lead role in Death and the Maiden to New York, and Billie Whitelaw - despite her unique position as Beckett's

Michael Pennington was also



Lacking status: Michael Gambon appearing in the West End production of David Hare's Skylight, which he will not be able to recreate on Broadway

not deemed a big enough star, and missed the chance to act in Shaffer's Gift of the Gorgon on Broadway. Meanwhile, those who have been allowed include Elaine Paige, Tom Courtenay, and Vanessa Redgrave.

Such decisions raise the controversial question of what exactly is a star. Equity in Britain, which applies the same rule in reverse to American actors, admits it has never written a de-

"It's impossible to say," admits Peter Finch, who heads Eq-

uity's theatre department. "It's the upper-class twit (a la Hugh often obvious, but if there's an Grant), the suave gentleman element of doubt we would apply criteria such as what work that person has done, whether they have played in more than one country: and if so, which countries, and which theatre

Jeff Kaye, European bureau chief of the entertainment industry paper the Hollywood Reporter, notes that British actors and actresses have been inhibited by traditionally being

Grant), the snave gentleman (Sean Connery's James Bond) or the evil villain (Alan Rick-

"Michael Gambon rated 22 out of 100 in our star power list of the most bankable actors and actresses for last year," he added. "That's pretty low. Other Brits did far better. Kenneth Branagh was at 74, Sean Connery was at 94, and Hugh Grant

Stardom also differs in the

lywood is about looks; the stage puts ability further up the pecking order.

Theatre is much more about the quality of the actor because that's part of the experience of going to the theatre," said Nick James, deputy editor of the film magazine Sight and Sound. "In cinema it's to do with glamour rather than talent. "Gambon rose to promi-

nence in the English theatre as a marvellous stage performer, and that's enough on the English stage. But in the States he

gets seen in movies where he plays parts more to do with hack-work - like Julia Roberts' father in the film Mary Reilly."

The problem is that any definition of what makes a star cannot include the imponderable quality which lifts a lead actor into a household name. That is an elusive mix of track record, personality, marketing. looks, enviability quotient, bankability and love life.

Emma Thompson, for example, seems to lack the enviability quotient, partly a result

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of her jolly-hockey-sticks looks.

Daniel Day-Lewis, however,
has a broodingly tragic appearance which fits the bill. The jury is still out on Kate Winslet: her looks and films so far are a plus, but her youth and naïveté

may prove a problem. Of course, early death always helps in the quest for entertainment's holy grail. The ultimate star remains Marilyn Monroe, who combined a mysterious demise with an affair



in the US be



American Equity denied Billie Whitelew star status, even though she was act ing in plays Samuel B



Car park in a courtyard to be a riverside art gallery

DAVID LISTER

Cars parked by Inland Revenue staff are to be banned from one of London's premier cultural sites, as part of the process of turning it into a riverside art and courtyard for

The decision urged on the Government by Lord Rothschild, chairman of the Na-

tional Hentage Memorial Fund, marks a victory for the long-runSomerset House, which at premove. However, by the end of marks a victory for the long-running Independent campaign to free key areas of cultural importance from parked cars and Department. open them up for tourists and

other visitors to walk through. The Chambers courtyard off borders the Courtauld Institute of Art and the Courtauld Galleries - with its famous im-

move. However, by the end of sent is home to the Inland Revenue and the Lord Chancellor's park elsewhere or use public transport.

The courtyard, designed by the 18th-century architect Sir William Chambers, was one of the Strand, in central London, the focal points of the Independent campaign to have parked cars removed from cultural spaces; but Inland Rev-

The Government has agreed that the Lord Chancellor's de-partment will move from the river-fronting south block of Somerset House, and the building will be turned into a new art gallery to house the £75m Gilbert Collection of silver, gold, micro-mosaics and gold boxes. The river terrace will

> tigious art spaces. The move to allow visitors to wander through the courtyard area also signals a new will. Lord Rothschild said: "I fervently hope that through the Heritage Lottery Fund some of the hidden historic open spaces in London become available for the public's enjoyment, in line with the *Independent* campaign. The Heritage Lottery Fund is able to ensure that cars will no longer be parked in the Great Quadrangle so that this great and long neglected urban open space can once again be enjoyed

transform the building, cur-

ently housing divorce courts.

into one of Britain's most pres-

The Heritage Lottery Fund, which Lord Rothschild chairs has agreed to offer a grant of £15.5m to help refurbish and fit out the Terrace Building as well as putting up funds to en-dow the Gilbert Collection.

The Independent campaign to remove parked cars from important cultural locations also targetted London's Royal Academy, off Picadilly. The RA has also agreed that cars should be removed from its

Other targets of the cam-paign were the forecourt of the British Museum, and Horse Guards Parade – venue for the Trooping Of The Colour where civil servants' cars are Neither of these two sites has

yet been cleared for pedestrians.

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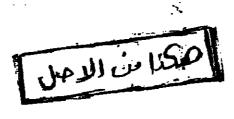
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Blanc and Loko combine to wreak revenge on Stoichkov's dispirited cohorts



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France banish the ghost of Bulgaria to reach last eight

France, still burning with indignation at the part Bulgaria played in their failure to reach the World Cup finals of 1994, gained revenge at St James' Park yesterday to ensure they finished top of Group B. The blow proved to be a fatal one for Bulgaria, who were denied a place in the last eight because of Spain's win over Romania 90

miles away at Elland Road. The day began with any two of three teams capable of reaching the quarter-finals, but Spain prevailed at Leeds to finish with five points. That was one more than the Bulgarians, who will no doubt reflect on the Hiristo Stoichkov "goal" that was wrongly disallowed for offside

against the Spanish. Stoichkov was implicated in further controversy after the match, when one of his opponents, Marcel Desailly, accused him of racism. "In the first 20 minutes he made racist comments towards me and other

African players in our team," he said. "I do not consider Stoichkov to be a great player any more and I don't take anything from my battle from him. He was saying black this and black that."

Stoichkov replied: "It's normal, if you took a microphone on to the pitch you would find it was happening everywhere." Departure from the tourna-

ment was a harsh outcome for Bulgaria although they could have no complaints about the result of this match. Stoichkov, apart, their attack looked leaden and clumsy compared to the nimble French. The Parma striker, almost in-

evitably, got the Bulgarian goal that would prove a consolation buried by the French strikes from Laurent Blanc, an own goal by Luboslav Penev, and Patrice Loko. In the closing moments, Stoichkov stood on his own on the half-way line, totally uninterested in the proceedings. "We were punished for our

Guy Hodgson

BULGARIA 1 FRANCE 3

Stoichkov (69 min) Haif-time: 0-1

Penev og (63 mm) Loko (90 min)

The French still look back in mistakes," Dimitar Penev, the Bulgarian coach, said, "but despite this defeat I still feel my horror on the November night two and half years ago when the Bulgarians pinched a place in USA 94 with a last-minute goal team has done well. France have paid us back now."

Bull.CARA (4-4-2): Milkindlev (Reading); Kremindlev (Olympielos Pirael Ivanov (Rapid Vienna), Hubchev (Hamburg), Esvetenov (Wald Marrhein); Lechiov (Hamburg), Yankov (Bayer Usrdinger), Yordanov (Sping Lisbon). Beleikov (VIS Sungain); Stochiov (Perma), Penev (Ariet Madrin). Substitutes: Bottmirov (1860 Munich) for Yankov, 78; Doné (CSKA Sofia) for Belakov, 81.

FRANCE (4-3-2-1): Lame (Paris St-Germein); Thuram (Parma), Blanc (Barcelona), Deschappe (Milan), Lizarazu (Bordeaud; Karembeu (Sampdoria), Deschappe (Lucanus), Querin (Paris St-Germain); Zidane (Bordeaud; Diodicaeff (Interezzonale); Dugarry (Milan). Substitutes: Pedros (Nantes) for Zidane, 61; Lolar (Paris St-Germain) for Dugarry, 59.

Bookings: Bulgaria: Nanov, Kremeniav, France: Desaily, Dugarry. Referee: D Gellagher (England) replaced by P Durkin (England), 27. Nam of the match: Djorkeet.

in Paris. From the lusty singing of "La Marseillaise" beforehand to the crunching foul Desailly inflicted on Stoichkov in the third minute, it was clear they were highly motivated.

This energy was nearly sated as early in the 13th minute. Borislav Mikhailov diving low to his left to tip Youri Djorkaeff's free-kick round the post. It proved to be a temporary reprieve, however, because seven minutes later Djorkaeff floated over a corner from the right that Blanc met emphatically with his head, thumping the ball be-tween Mikhailov and Emil Kre-

menliev on the line. Mikhailov also had to be agile to save a chip from Christophe Dugarry after 43 minutes and only just got a boot to the ball when Djorkaeff missed a through ball from Vincent Guérin and almost wrong-footed him. The Bulgarian goal-keeper was stopping everything the French were throwing at

him; he could not be expected to halt miscalculations from his own players. When Penev inadvertently flicked the ball backwards from Djorkaeff's corner after 62 minutes, he was stranded two yards off his line.

The Bulgarians looked beaten but, after 68 minutes, they were awarded a free-kick right of centre 25 yards out and, with arrogant ease, Stoichkov took just one step and then curled a left-foot shot past Bernard Lama. It was the first successful free-kick of Euro 96 and his

third goal in three matches.

As the Bulgarians sensed hope, however, the Spanish got their winner five minutes from time. The white shirts deflated with despair and in the last minute the French landed the final blow. Christian Karembeu played a pass through a square Bulgarian back line and Loko beat Mikhaiklov on the right of the area before placing the ball past Ivailo Yordanov on the line.

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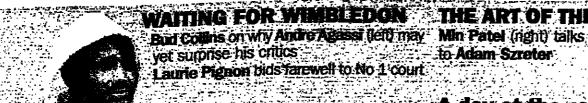
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to Adam Szreter

A day at the races The professional's view Richard Edmondson, Greg Wood and Serena Mackesy on the first day of Royal Ascot

Illingworth stunned and saddened by TCCB fine

DEREK PRINGLE

in an unexpected courtroom drama, deep inside London's Inner Temple, Raymond Illingworth, England's chairman of selectors, was fined £2,000 yesterday and severely reprimanded by the Test and County Cricket Board's discipline committee, after comments he made in a national newspaper were found to be in breach of two Board directives.

The verdict and punishment

- settled on despite of a glow-ing testimonial sent to the hearing by Dennis Silk, the chairman of the TCCB - took just over three hours to reach, and left Illingworth clearly dispirited and

almost speechless in disbelief.
Asked whether he would still do the job if he could turn the clock back three years, Illing-worth replied: "No. I wouldn't have taken the job."

It was clearly a sad day for Illingworth, who at present plans to see through his selectorial commitments for the rest of eting establishment's continued perpetuation of the old amateur

If Illingworth, forever the old pro, had resigned on the spot, it would probably have been the final battle between the two. As it is, his current intention to carry on, probably means the divisiveness will dribble on into the 21st century.

However, what seems to irk Illingworth most is that the financial penalty arose from articles published in the Daily Express in May. Ironically, the

even sadder to witness the crick- fine is exactly the same amount that he imposed on Michael Atherton for the dirt in the pocket affair in 1994, a move which was widely thought to have saved the captain's job.

in the first piece, two para-graphs in which Illingworth had mildly criticised the TCCB's weak handling of Devon Malcolm's flagrant breach of contract, were singled out. While the whole of the second article, the first part of his book serialisation, was the Malcolm critique proper. A third piece, which appeared a day after the

others, merely generated a rep-rimand – the discipline com-mittee patronisingly stating that, but for Illingworth's contribu-tions to English cricket, the fine would have been a lot higher.

"The committee took into account the mitigating circum-stances put before them and in particular the exceptional service which Mr Illingworth has given to the game at county and international level," the statement from the committee said.
"This resulted in a lower penalty than would otherwise have "The committee imposed a fine of £2,000 in respect of the first charge, a reprimand in respect of the second and a con-tribution of £500 towards the

cost of the hearing.

"The committee indicated that note should be taken that breaches of the Board's directives relating to the making of public statements will be handled more severely in the

The TCCB has not handled the affair at all well. What should have been sorted out in 10 minutes, has instead rumbled

on for weeks, culminating in ves-terday's hearing being held at an unexpected venue that was kept secret until the last minute.

In a summer in which cricket needs all the good publicity it can get, the board, by de-flecting the attention away from England's fine start on the field, has been just as prejudicial to the interests of cricket as Illingworth outspoken comments were.

Having been taken aback by his punishment, Illingworth was further distressed to hear that Nick Knight had failed a fitness test on his broken finger. That means Alec Stewart will be given another chance to open the mnings, although his inclusion is thought likely to be on a short-term basis only. He clearly turned up at Lord's expecting Knight to be fit as he brought only his Surrey kit, and, when told he was playing, had to go home to futch his England kit.

Knight, who was struck dur-ing the Edgbaston Test, was ex-tremely disappointed to miss out. After having a neighb found he could not catch prop-erly and rightly declared fun-self unavailable.

Muster angry over Wimbledon seeding

JOHN ROBERTS

Six days to go, and the tantrums have started already. Thomas Muster, the world No 2, was sulking yesterday about being demoted to No 7 seed in the

Wimbledon men's singles. The 28-year-old Austrian, who is competing in Halle, Germany, said: "It doesn't matter that I've never won a match at Wimbledon. I'm still No 2 in the world and I think I should be seeded, maybe three or four, but at least in the top four. I think to seed the No 2 player in the world No 7 is quite respectless.

"If we seed like this we should have a ranking for each surface. We should have a clay court ranking, a grass court

ranking, then OK. But I don't think it's right that this is the only tournament that does it. think it's a joke."

His manager-coach, Ronnie Leitgeb, said: "Never in the history of Wimbledon has a world No 2, a former No 1, been seeded so low. That's a subtle way of saying they don't want him. This is further proof that the people in Britain don't

Muster, who triumphed in 11 clay-court tournaments last year, including the French Open, has not won a match in four visits to the All England Club's lawns. He had not won a match on grass as a senior until he defeated the South African Marcos Ondruska during a Davis Cup tie in February, only days before the Austrian

Wimbledon singles draws

Holder: P Sampras (US) FIRST ROUND Forget (FI); M. Telstrom (Swe) v. M. Likhortesia (Rus) v. Ecaleris (Bel); A. Goeliner (Ger); M. Telsbutt (Aust) v. A. Goeliner (Ger); M. Telsbutt (Aust) v. Daylet (Rom); Qualifier v. D. Rid (Cz. Witneyer (US) v. Qualifier; K. Norek (Fol); Rep); A. Costa (Sp.) v. M. CHANG (US); v. G. Pizzichini (It); T. Jecrnenica (Fug.) v. Kareinikov (Rus) v. T. Henman v. G. Fizzichini (It); T. Jecrnenica (Fug.) v. Kareinikov (Rus) v. T. Henman v. G. Fizzichini (It); T. Jecrnenica (Fug.) v. Kareinikov (Rus) v. T. Henman v. G. Fizzichini (It); T. Jecrnenica (Fug.) v. Jecrneni v A Medvedev (Uid): C Beecher (GB)
v N Gould (GB); H Arazi (Mor) v N
Kulti (Swe); T Johansson (Swe) v J
Eltingh (Neth); qualifier v qualifier;
qualifier v A AGASSI (US); J COURIER (US) v J Stark (US); M Knowles
(Ban) v J Golmard (Fh); F Mandile (Sp)
v P Haarhuls (Neth): M J Batas (GB)
v N Pereira (Vent); B Ullimach (Cx Rep)
v C Costa (Sp); F Dewulf (Bel) v F
Spedea (US); R Fromberg (Aus) v M
Washington (US); qualifier v T ENQVIST (Swe); A BOETSCH (Ff) v A
Radulescu (Ger); S Pescosolido (ft)
v C Woodruff (US); D Wheeton (US)
v F Fetberlein (Den); G Raoux (Fr) v
Y El Ansoul (Mor); G Starflord (US)
v S Noszaly (Hun); qualifier v C Cerat-

Politier S Greef (Ger) PIRST ROUND

A HUBER (Ger) y G Leon Gracia (Sp): P Shriver (US) v qualifier, K Godndg (Aus) v H Sukova (Cz Rep); qualifier

(Aus) v H Sukoia (Cr Rep); qualifier v A Sugiyarta (lapan); P Begerow (Ser). v B Schett (Auf); F Lahat (Arg) v T Whitlinger-Jones (US); S Cacic (US) v S Testud (Fr); J Kanderi (Ger) v M Farnandez (US); A COETZER (SA) v E Wagner (Ger); M Endo (Japan) v M McGrati (US); A Dechaume-Baileret (Fr) v N Feber (Bel); A Miller (US) v P Suaraz (Ang); Y Karrio (Japan) v N Dechy (Fr); D Van Roost (Bel) v qualifier this part of the service of the serv

*Seeded players in capitals

Last week, in the absence of Pete Sampras, the current No 1, Muster was made top seed for the Stella Artois Championships at Queen's Club, London, a tournament which abides by the ATP Tour rankings. Muster won three matches, losing in the semi-finals to Stefan Edberg, twice a Wimbledon champion.

Yesterday's Wimbledon draw projected a quarter-final beween Muster and Sampras, who has won the title for the past three years. Both face potential hazards before that. Should Muster advance to the fourth round, he could find himself playing Michael Stich, the 1991 champion, who is seeded as low as No 10 in spite of reaching the French Open final.

Sampras, who opens his defence on the Centre Court at 2pm on Monday against Richey Reneberg, an American compatriot, may then face Mark Philippoussis, the Melbourne teenager who overpowered him in the third round of the Aus-

tralian Open in January. Edberg, seeded No 12 for his farewell appearance after finishing runner-up to Boris Becker at Queen's on Sunday, is in Sampras's half and is drawn to play the sixth-seeded Michael Chang in the fourth round. The Swede will do well to negotiate a first-round match against the unseeded Frenchman Guy Forget.

Tim Henman, the British No 1, has drawn the fifth-seeded Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who won the French Open 11 days ago, defeating Sampras in the semi-finals. "I'm looking for-ward to it." Henman said, recalling that he held a set point against the Russian before losing to him in Rotterdam in March, 7-6, 6-3.

1, it may be remer bered, lost to Sampras in the second round last year and was then disqualified while playing doubles after a ball-girl was struck by a ball he hit in anger. Kafelnikov is projected to

meet the third-seeded Andre Agassi in the quarter-finals, while Boris Becker, the No 2 seed, looks well set to advance to a possible match against Jim Courier in the last eight. Monica Seles's first match at Wimbledon for four years will

be against Ann Grossman, an American compatriot. If the seedings work out, Seles, the No 2 seed, will play Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, last year's runner up, in the semi-finals. Steffi Graf, drawn to play Conchita Martinez in the semifinals, opens her defence of the title against Ludmila Richterova, of the Czech Republic. The German No 1 seed could face the

15-year-old Swiss Martina Hingis

in the fourth round and Jana

Novotna in the quarter-finals.



Mary Pierce follows through on her service but failed to deliver at Eastbourne yesterday

Photograph: AP

Erratic Pierce loses interest

reports from Eastbourne

She is called "The Body", but Mary Pierce's problem seems to he in keeping it together with her soul while on court. Yesterday, at the Direct Line Insurance championships here, the 21-year-old produced a performance of dazzling inconsis-tency in losing 6-0, 5-7, 6-2 to Irina Spirlea.

Playing on grass for the first time in a year, Pierce, the ninth seed, certainly looked the part, but sadly only in as much as she was wearing a white version of · the low-cut dress that had briefly raised temperatures at Roland Garros.

Here it seemed difficult to detect a pulse. Always one to blow positively frozen out of the first

set, winning just five points as her 22-year-old opponent from Romania, ranked No 17 in the world, gratefully accepted error after error while simultaneously exposing Pierce's rela-

tive lack of manoeuvrability. When Spirlea held to lead 2-0 in the second set - Pierce had by now managed a total of seven points - even the crowd was becoming embarrassed.

Suddenly, after 27 minutes of torpor, a deep breath replaced the distracted sighs and four points exploded from her racket in less than a minute. The spell was broken and so too, at

3, was Spirlea. Pierce's strength is her power and gradually her shots began to find their targets. Her trademark, slow, elegant stroll between points was even upped either hot or cold. Pierce was a gear (to first). And taking ad-

fault that set up the opportunity, she claimed the second set top 10 are at Eastbourne this ranked players. with an exquisite wrong-footing cross-court forehand pass.

It was at this point that interest again seemed to drain out of Pierce. She dropped serve in the opening game of the deciding set, then again at 1-3, subsiding with a double-fault, and Spiriea was not unduly troubled in serving out the match.

Surprisingly, given her record on grass - Pierce has won only one match, at Wimbledon last year - she remains optimistic. "Grass is really fun," she said afterwards. "It could be

good for my game. I can take advantage of the first shot and once I get used to moving around I can get better. But don't expect me to play great on it for a couple of years Despite the late withdrawal of Steffi Graf, the Wimbledon

top 10 are at Eastbourne this ranked players. week with Monica Seles, the No I seed, opening her campaign today against Meredith Mc-Grath, the winner at Edghaston

last week.

Because of the strength of the field, Clare Wood, ranked 187 in the world and a wild card, was the only Briton in the draw. Yesterday, she displayed her versatility against the world No 27, Ai Sugiyama of Japan, saving one match point with an ace, a second with a drop shot and a third with a powerful foreband. However, a netted backhand on her fourth match point gave Sugiyama a 6-4, 6-3 victory. It was Wood's 10th successive first-round defeat at Eastbourne and she has yet to win

a set. Results, Sporting Digest, page 11

Slaney reaches Atlanta

Rusedski follows Henman through

Greg Rusedski moved in the second round of the North ham Open after a 55-minut ham Open after a 33-minus re-tory yesterday over the second seed, Alberto Costa of Sach. The British No 2's 6-105-4 success followed that of am Henman, who ended the labes of Malivai Washington, the No 3 seed, on Monday.

Rusedski, world ranke 76, won four games in a row to take the first set against the

Spaniard, a clay-court special-ist ranked 17 in the world. Costa managed to save three match points in the 10th game of the second set before netting two consecutive volleys to give

Rusedski victory. Mark Woodforde joined the other major seeds on the sidelines when he lost 6-2, 7-6 to the American Vince Spadca. The defeat of the fourth seed from Australia leaves Jan Siemerink, the fifth seed from the Nemer-lands, as the highest-ranked player left. Siemerink managed a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Russia's Andrei Olhovskiy.

At the Wimbledon qualifying tournament in Rochampton, Andrew Richardson overpowered his fellow Briton Simon-Pender to move to within one match of booking a place in next week's first round proper.

The tall 22-year-old left-

hander from Bourne, Lincolushire, proved too strong and experienced for his: 18year-old Cornish opponent and finished a 6-2, 6-4 winner.

Richardson, who at 6ft 7in towers above most of his opponents, said his game had improved with the help of Peter Fleming, the former doubles partner of John McEnroe. "He is a big guy like myself so he can understand the way I feel and the way I should play," he said.

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Four of the seven British women on view won their:first

Jane Wood celebrated her best win since she returned to the women's circuit after a break of nearly 10 years to study in America and to coach. She scored a surprise: 6-4. 6-3 victory over the Beckenham finalist Maria Vento of Venezuela, the second seed who is nearly 300 places above

her at 116 in the world. Gloucestershire's Emily Bond, who languishes at 456 in the world, bridged an even wider gulf in the world rankings to put out the No 148, Sonya

Jeyaseelan of Canada, 7-5, 6-1.
The other home winners were Essex's Mandy Wainwright who beat the Spaniard Paula Hermida in three sets and Julie Pullin, of Sussex, who routed the Hungarian Viraag Csurgo 6-1, 6-2.

Lang kicks Scotland to victory

Welsh success leaves coach unimpressed

Arwel Thomas penalty goal in the for battling No 8 Andrew Gibbs.

Bay of Plenty

Scotland may have carved out a nail-biting victory in Rotorua yesterday but their coach, Richie Dixon, admitted his side had plenty of preparation to do before the second Test against New Zealand.

S Moszely (Hun); queelifier v C Ceret-ti (iti; F Clavet (Sp) v T Carbonel (Sp); J Fleuren (Fr) v B BECKER (Ger)

"Our commitment was good to start with but we allowed them to dictate the middle part of the game," Dixon said. "We have a

Despite Wales recording their

third victory in Australia, by 42-9,

against Victoria in Melbourne

vesterday. Kevin Bowring, the coach, was unimpressed by his

side's performance even though they scored seven tries. "Our in-

goal-kicking by Stuart Lang, the full-back, saw the Scots home in

erupted Mount Ruapehu. Dixon watched his side re-

lot of things to work on with a number of the young players." the Scots, though, came from Lang, whose three successful A strong finish and accurate their penultimate tour match as le, took over from stand-off clouds of volcanic ash floated Craig Chalmers after the Mel-

cover from 31-22 down going into the last quarter - before a try by the scrum-half. Andy Nicol, turned the tide - but he insisted: "The players stuck to their task and got the points." The telling contribution for made them battle.

experience in midfield was re-

flected in our play; we didn't get the balance right," he said.

opening quarter before Andy

Moore darted over for the first

try. Wayne Proctor and Crispin

Cormack added others, Corma-

ck going on to complete his try hat-trick deep into injury time.

Waies could only manage an

kicks at goal won the game. The 6ft 5in full-back, who had earlier made a try-saving tack-

from the direction of the recently rose player had endured a dismal afternoon with his goal-kicking. Lang's conversion of Nicol's try and two penalty goals in the last 10 minutes gave the Scots their win. Scotland built an advantage with wing Derek Stark running in a hat-trick of tries, before Bay

The flanker Mike Voyle got

Wales' other first-half score, a

brace from Cormack in the

second-half sandwiching one

ney to prepare for Saturday's second Test against the Walla-

bies, with a major concern over lock Paul Arnold, who has in-

Wales now move on to Syd-

The Scots, beaten 62-31 by the All Blacks in the Dunedin first Test last weekend, will attempt to seek their revenge in Auckland on Saturday.

Auckland on Saturday.

Bay of Piently: Tries Ensures, Michillen, Spanhole. Tringet: Conversions Miller, Parentice Miller,

2. Scotlenck: Tries Stark, 3, Nool 2; Conversions
Craimen, Large Paparities Lang 2.

8XY OF PLENTY: D. Raut: G. Terrans, 1; Span-hole,
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8. Shintreon, P. Tupel, M. Carrie, S. Auters, P.

Cook, J. Edwards, S. Sampierz.

SCOTLAND: S. Lang (Nylos); C. Glangiow (Henof's FP), A. Stangiow (Henof's FP), A. Stangiow (Henof's FP), A. Stangiow (HenOf's FP), A. Stangiow (HenOf's FP), A. Wiscol (Barriy); Smith (Musson) (and

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Armstrong (Newcastid), E. Weir (Newcastid), C.

Armstrong (Newcastid), E. Weir (Newcastid)

Victoriec Pennikies Hendy 3, Weiers Tries Cor-mack 3, Gibbs, A Moore, Proctor, Voyle; Con-versions A Thomes 2; Pennikies A Thomes, Victorials S Christ; P Lorre, M Nasallo, L Strauss, M Bell; A Hendy, L Daley; A Cheries, D Thompson, S lakowis, A Scott, S Pensons, C Frater (card), J Weishe, P Holsceed, WALES: C Commack (Porthyondic): W Proctor (Liancelle), D James (Bridgend), J Rammil (Neath), S Hill (Cardiff); A Thomas (Svensea), A Moore (Richmond, capd); A Levis (Cardiff), B Williams (Neath), J Davies (Westh), S Ford Bridgend), P Armoid (Swensea), M Lowes (Ebby Vale), Replacements: N Jambors (Portpould), R Homes

TODAY'S FIXTURES

GROUP C italy v Germany (7,30) . (Old Trafford, Manchester

(Antield, Liverpool) Pontia v Portugal (4.20) (City Ground, Nottingham) Turkey v Denmark (4.30)

Cricket

TANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPA SHIP (first day of four, 11.0 start): Bas-Second XI Championship (First day of times 11.0 start): The Ovat: Surrey v (20ucastership

FOURT TEAM (CHAMPIONSHIP qualifying round Fourth leg: Hall (51) v Middlesbrough (52) v Scot-tish Monachis (72) v Sheffleld (15); Proble (77) v Catard (91) v Sheffleld (15); Proble 179 leg: Chadley Heath & Sobia (68) v Belle Vice (60) v Widershampton (105) v Coventry (67) (at Sacke, 7 45)

Other sports CYCLING: Isle of Man Inter

Athletics

Mary Slaney qualified for her first Olympics since 1988 at the US Olympic trials in Atlanta on Monday, but Carl Lewis only

ust scraped into the finals of the long jump.
The 37-year-old Slaney rallied from fifth place in the last three laps to finish second in the 5.000m final and complete an

impressive comeback. and to be in contention, and I'm going to put in a lot of hard work in the next month because want to be in the medal hunt in July," she said.

Slaney, considered one of

the greatest - and most ill-fated - American female middledistance runners in history, finished just over a second adrift of the winner Lynn Jennings. She holds five US records from 800m to 3,000m but has never finished higher than

eighth in an Olympic race and

has had so many operations on her legs - "18 to 20, somewhere

in there" - that she can not remember the exact number. Monday's trials threatened to repeat her 1984 Olympics disaster in Los Angeles. With

about 300m to go, Slaney was clipped on the heel by Amy Rudolph. Unlike the 1984 3,000m, where Slancy fell to the track in a heap after tangling with Zola Budd, she righted her stride and went on to finish second in 15:29.39.

The largely tactical race was won by Jennings in 15:28.18. Rudolph took the third and final spot for the event on the US Olympic team in 15:29.91. Lewis, the three-times

Olympic long-jump champion, qualified only sixth for today's final. The 34-year-old Lewis who missed out on qualifying for the Olympic 100m on Saturday, recorded only 8.03m, but this proved good enough to move on to the next round. If he fails, Lewis - the winner of eight gold medals over the last three Games - will have only the 200m remaining to qualify for his final Olympics.

"I wanted to stay relaxed, just be smooth today, work on my run," said Lewis, whose long jump victories in 1984, 1988 and 1992 account for three of his Olympic golds. "I didn't want to be too aggressive because I didn't want to risk an injury, added Lewis, who suffered cramp in his right calf while finishing last in the 100m final. Mike Powell, the world-

record holder, and Mike Con-

ley led the qualifying with jumps of 8.32m.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The record number of golfers who have entered next month's Open at Royal Lytham. The pre-vious record of 1,836 was set at St Andrews last year and the new mark is 525 more than in 1988, the last time the Open

1,918

was held at Lytham.



Hammer and tongs: The muscles on these men were incredible, pecs like melons, sides of beef for shoulders - and they were only the supporters

Photograph: Robert Hallam

Who is Mick Jones?

bu're really going to do some-thing on the hammer? Oh, that's great." Malcolm said. "No one

it up a bit, isn't he? You've got to fancy Roger for the 400.

They were an affable bunch, really lookever does anything on the hammer. I was in the hammer myself, actually, but I was too small, that's what it came down to." Malcolm was now a press officer for the three A's. We were standing in the half-empty Alexandra Sta-jdium at the start of finals day, a time of wild hopes, soon to be followed for many by the broken dream of an Atlanta-less summer; well, for the men's hammer throwers, the virtual guarantee of one.

Rused

follow

Henn

"Any hammer thrower you could recom-mend?" I asked Malcolm. "I don't know, .bit of a character maybe?"

"Er, Smithy's bound to win it. I mean, he usually does, Dave does. But the one von really want is Mick Jones. He's a real character. And his coach. Alan Bircham. .He's the same. Alan Bircham trained me, actually. Both of them are real characters.

Malcolm told me the hammer followers aiways sat in the same seats in the stand behind the hammer cage. There wouldn't be many of them. Once I got there, I'd probably recognise Alan Bircham straight away. He'd be the balding man, wearing a brightly coloured shirt no doubt, shouting loud-er than anyone else and cracking jokes. And Mick Jones, well, you couldn't miss him. After the event was over, they'd go and sit in the stand with the hammer followers. They always did. They liked to stick together.

A pleasant light breeze fluttered the pages of stats lying around the press room. Mick Jones, personal best 72.10 metres. And that wasn't this year. The Olympic qualifying standard was 74. Dave Smith had done 75.10. Paul Head had gone farther than Mick Jones, too. He'd done 74.02, but that was some time ago. It looked as though the Olympic place was all but Dave Smith's

The athletics writers were just unpacking their gear, chatting idly. Only the hammer was going on The big events weren't on for two or three hours. Did you hear about Linford yesterday? Paid a visit to the press room, apparently. It looked like war, but it ended in handshakes. Unbelievable. Typical Linford. You should have been there. Du'aine Ladejo? He's talking

ing forward to the big races with the resid-ual enthusiasm of fanhood. Not like some of the football writers with their I-couldbe-a-manager Umbro puffa jackets. Yeah, saw him down at Scribes last night, didn't I. You wonder why Christie gets so het up about the athletics writers. They weren't the ones who wrote the hunchbox stuff.

I walked around the stadium towards the hammer followers' stand. Outside, the fans were arriving and picnicking on the grass before they went in: middle-aged white couples with "I support British athletics" Tshirts, carrying little Union Jacks, the ones you've always seen on television in some distant foreign stadium through the years, wav-ing their flags at Daley, Seb, Sally, Linford, ucking in the sun next to black g

The hammer followers' stand looked like a convention for Security Personnel International

sunglasses, and schoolchildren of all colours scampering about with autograph books. A gentle, idyllic courteousness infused the air. Oh gosh, I'm not taking up all your shade am I? No, man, you carry on, everything's sweet. It must be the only unmanufactured, one-nation British sport, athletics.

Things were slightly different in the ham-mer followers' stand, however. In fact, it looked like a convention for Security Personnel International. Scanning around for Alan Bircham, I couldn't tell who was balding or not because they all seemed to be sporting close crops and baseball caps. They were all peering grimly out at the hammer cage from under the peaks of the caps. The muscles on these men were incredible, necs like melons, sides of beef for shoulders. And they were only the supporters. No one was discernably cracking jokes. There was just

BEING THERE



Much of the drama at the Olympic trials did not make the headlines. The hammer, for instance.

Jonathan Rendall tells the tale

30 yards away. Only the photographers and the elderly officials were allowed around the cage, apart from the hammer throwers themselves. Jones was an amiablelooking giant of a man with carrot-coloured suede-head crop. He looked like how you imagined Lenny from Of Mice and Men would look, with a touch of Gordon Ferris, the former British heavyweight champ from Ulster, thrown in.

Jones was bigger than the other throwers, but with the suspicion of a belly. Between throws, he wandered up and down the grass strip by the cage, wincing and talk-ing to himself. He was a man who wore his emotions on his sleeve. Dave Smith was almost as big but trimmer. He was clearly following some psychological battle-plan. He had a synchronised warm-up routine and put his baseball cap on between throws. He was already in the lead, 72.58. Ahead, but not safe. Paul Head was smaller and swarthier. He eschewed both the meticulous psychological build-up of Smith and the emotionalism of Jones. He just hung around between throws and then got on

Time was running out to catch Smith. They were on their fourth throws out of five. Head and Jones went after Smith, so at least they knew what they had to throw. Most of the hammer followers wanted Jones to win, you could tell. The murmuring reached a mini-crescendo when he swung round on

the staccato murmur of stats. "When was it?" the grass strip to face the cage and take his it Paul Head did the 74.02? '94 was it?" turn, and it was interspersed with a sort of I spotted Mick Jones immediately. Num-ber 11, prowling around by the cage some affectionate semi-chortling, hoping be'd come good, like England football fans watching Gazza, on a microscopic scale. Smithy, good for you," one of the baseball "Mick's got to go past his PB, y'know - 72.10. Come on, Mick."

Jones wiped the sweat from his forehead, then whirled round and let out a cardling yell as he released the hammer. It glided up and away into the blue above the stadium stands, but already Jones was shaking his head. He didn't like it. He shook his head and stamped off. He was still third, behind Head and Smith. This time he took an extended walk up the grass strip. He must have gone 70 yards. He went as far as a photographer who was perched there. You could see Jones talking, but from that range it wasn't clear whether he was talking to the photographer or to himself.

Smith took his last throw, He went

through his warm-up but still looked tense. He wanted a throw that would put him safe. The hammer arched purposefully but then fell away. Smith was bent double in disappointment. Now they could still catch him. But then Head threw and was gruffly tearing off the number from his vest before the hammer had landed.

Only Jones was left. A matronly figure with grey hair in a white dress handed Jones the silver orb. Jones dangled its chain from his huge fingers like a yo-yo. He took up a position 40 yards from the cage and stared at it intently. For how many endless hours had Jones and Alan Bircham prepared for just such a moment? He walked back towards it with his shoulders thrown back. The hammer exploded out from the cage. Jones liked it. The glare from the sun meant you couldn't see exactly where it had gone, but Jones had a good feeling. He punched the air and up the grassy strip his gait acquired a swagger. Jones raised his arms to the almost completely unreceptive crowd. At least the hammer followers knew what was

going on. Jones, what a showman. We waited for the MC to announce the result of the throw over the tannoy -71.22. An improvement, but not enough for Atlanta. For a second, a hollow look crossed Jones's face. But then he shrugged and gave a rueful smile. Jones, Head and Smith exchanged Mafioso-style handshakes. The MC interviewed Smith over the tannoy. Smith said he was "quietly confident" of reaching the final in Atlanta. "Good for you,

Smith stood there beaming at the athletics writers. But they were looking at the track

caps said sympathetically, as if Smith had just confessed to believing in a strange religious faith.

I waited for Jones to amble over to the hammer followers seats, but he didn't. He was ushered into a stadium tunnel by the officials. Malcolm said this must be because it was finals day, when I got back round to the press room. No problem, Malcolm said, we'd call Jones over the tannoy. "Did you see Alan Bircham?" Malcolm said. "No," I said. Malcolm said: "Oh, that's a shame. He's a real character, Alan, like Mick is."

After about 20 minutes, Dave Smith suddenly appeared with another official. Smith stood there holding his winner's cup and beaming at the athletics writers. But they were looking at the track. The track stars were limbering up and the big races would soon be on. "Someone here looking for one of the hammer throwers?" the official said. Yes, I said, but not Dave Smith, it was Mick Jones, "Mick who?" the official said. I went down to the changing-rooms and

asked the doorman. "Oi, Mick!" he shouted. "Someone wants you!" But then a diminutive figure in a blazer shuffled out. He must have been about 50, "Sorry, mate," the doorman said. "I don't know any Mick Joneses apart from Mick here."

By now about an hour had passed. The stadium was packed. People were massed on the grassy verge opposite the stands, waiting to see Christie, Gunnell, Black and Ladejo. All the bodies blocked out the breeze. You had to stand on the steps outside the press room to get any air. Mick Jones's name had been on the tannoy four times. As well as Malcolm, the other two three As press officers were engaged in the search for Jones.

Some of the athletics writers were starting to get suspicious. What exactly did I want with this hammer thrower? Perhaps he's at doping control?" one said quizzi-cally. No, I said, it was nothing like that. I just wanted a chat, "What was his name again?" another asked.

"Mick Jones."

I told Malcolm and the other press officers to call off the search. It wasn't fair on them. They looked relieved. I decided to walk round the stadium one last time. Maybe I'd run into him. Well, you couldn't miss him. The deserted hammer cage loomed at one end of the stadium, a monstrous anachronism blotting out the track stars with its steel struts. I wonder if they've ever considered putting a sheet over it for decorum's sake.

The hammer followers were still there. discussing hammer technique while the 3,000m steeplechase sped past. "I kept telling him to push it in," one of them was saying, grinding his heel into the floor of the stand as if it were a hammer circle. Push it in, I told him, But he didn't, the lad." Maybe he was Alan Bircham? But no. Well, anyway, did he know where Mick Jones had gone?

"Ah, now Mick," he said warmly. Knowing Mick, he's probably gone home. Mick's the sort of bloke who could actually just do that."

The mourning after Italy's night of misery

eaches Atla t's been a beautiful few days m Italy, all blue skies and cool ear-

erest

ly morning breezes, but I don't get the impression anyone has noticed. Last weekend, there was no sign of the usual crush to get to the beaches and lakes within striking distance of the big cities. The bars and ice-cream shops on

the piazzas of small country towns were doing a fraction of their usual business, and the few people out on the streets exchanged greetings in the low tones of mourners at a funeral. Since last Friday night, when the Italian national team unexpectedly went down 2-1 to the Czech Republic

at Anfield, the entire country has

been in a state of shock. Football has been the only discernible topic of conversation, at least for those feeling strong enough to talk in the first place. Like victims of a collective bereavement, the remarks have been high on overwrought emotion and low on rational analysis, an erratic parade of anger, denial, grief and fear - fear of what will happen tonight when the national team faces the unenviable challetige of having to beat Germany or

ومعاه فالمان فتناء والمتخاص والمناه والمناه والمستحدد والمتكار

else fly home from Euro 96 in disgrace.
Can football really be this im-

portant to Italians? Yes, it can. The attitude towards Arrigo Sacchi, the team coach who dropped his two most successful players. Gianfranco Zola and Pier Luigi Casiraghi, from the starting line-up against the Czech Republic, has been little short of murderous. Saturday's Corriere dello Sport headlined its front page "Sac-chi, you asked for this" and, in common with the rest of the press, tore apart his handling of the game

step by step.
Luigi Apolloni, the Parma defender sent off for two yellow cards after an indifferent performance, has been branded public enemy number one. The silver-haired Fabrizio Ravanelli, the Juventus striker, is in the doghouse, too, because he clearly wasn't up to peak fitness on the night. And so the post-mortems have gone on, uncompromising and full of righteous indignation.

To this distinctly lukewarm follower of the game, football seems to bring out the very worst in Italy, turning the country into a nation of

SPORT IN ANOTHER COUNTRY

Defeat has sent a nation into shock. Andrew Gumbel reports from Rome

petulani teenagers who want everything to go their way all the time and grow instantly bolshy when the slightest hitch holds them up. Their moments of joy are suspiciously over-confident, their lows all slavering self-pity and melodramatic recrimination.

Reading the sports press, one phrase pops inevitably into my head: grow up. Don't take it all so seriously. OK, so the team screwed up, but that doesn't mean the whole country has to go on hold. Actually, I've been live up to his expectations. The

taking perverse pleasure in arguing Sacchi's side of the story. After all, it's not so long ago that he was lionised as the architect of Italy's glorious victory in their opening game against Russia

Of course he had to hold Zola and Casiraghi back, I say; neither was in top physical form and their energies needed to be spared. Zola was still recovering from dysentery and Casiraghi had complained of stomach cramps in training. Yes, it was fine leaving the field without a top-flight defender after Apolloni was sent off -after all, the Italian side has struggled through far worse with 10 men before. As for the decision to play Ravanelli at less than top form, well, he had gone on to the field for Juventus in the European Cup final against Ajax last month m a similar condition and played like a dream. The fact that he didn't do the same last Friday was just bad luck.

As Sacchi himself has said: if his tactical manoeuvres had worked out, he would have been a hero. So it seems churlish and immature to blame him because the team did not live up to his expectations. The weekend.

When we win, we are all good. When we lose, the fault is collective." Go, Arrigo, sock it to them.

And so to tonight's challenge against Germany. There is a saying in Italy that the national football team always messes up when things are going well but pulls out the stops when the pressure is on. Right now, that dictum is the only thing keeping this manic-depressive excuse for a country from slitting its collective wrists. When Germany walked all over Russia on Sunday night, the reaction around here was akin to an epileptic convulsion.

If Italy win, I will have to put up with another nauscating outpouring of self-congratulatory glee. My footie-mad friends won't forgive me for saying so, but I'll be much happier if they lose. It'll bring this crazy national psychosis to a rapid, if brutal close. I know the country will get over it, just like it recovered from its ignominious early exit from the Mexico World Cup 10 years ago. And in the meantime, I can look forward

SPORTING VERNACULAR

No 2 BOTTLE

"I am never going to get revenge on Mr van Basten," said Tony Adams in an interview yesterday, "as he has bottled it and retired." This seemed a little unfair to Mr van Basten, who could be forgiven for thinking that he had left the field as the victor, but whatever its instice, the remark testified again to the perceived importance of "bottle" as a component in a winning psychology.

Its origins are a little obscure. Partridge notes several slang and underworld uses for the term, none of which gives an entirely clear derivation. "No bottle" could be used to mean "no good" or "useless" in the early part of this cen-tury, but that dismissive sense doesn't quite square with its on-pitch meaning, where it refers to a very specific disability – the disappearance of confrontational bravery or nerve. A player might possess every physical skill required, but if he lacks bottle, he will be unable to deploy them when things get rough. A more likely

etymology is to be found in its use as rhyming slang for "arse" (bottle and glass), a meaning that suggests a colloquially honoured connection between courage and control of the sphincter muscles. To lose your bottle may just be a marginally more decorous version of bricking it". These are murky waters, though - in prison slang, to be "at the bottle" or a "bottlemerchant" is to be a predatory homosexual, so there is perhaps some dim memory of sexual submission in the term.

It seems most likely that it is a verbal pitch invasion - making its way into footballing talk from the terraces of the Seventies, as the game itself becomes more physically aggressive and less gentlemanly. There is no suggestion anywhere, incidentally, that it has any connection with the idea of Dutch courage or alcoholic valour, though in that sense the England team might be said to have too much "bottle" altogether.



Seedorf hints

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OCITIZEN *Eco-Drive*

Spanish eyes are smiling for Amor

JON CULLEY

reports from Elland Road

After struggling again, as they had against Bulgaria and France, to discover their true selves, Spain at last conjured a decisive show of strength to advance to the quarter-finals.

They left it late, agonisingly so for their anxious supporters, but their goal four minutes from the end, headed past Florin Prunea by the substitute Guillermo Amor, produced a result that was on balance deserved after subjecting the Romanian goal to in-tense second-half pressure.

It means that they and not Bulgaria go through as runnersup to France. Had they finished 1-1, Hristo Stoichkov and company would have progressed de-spite their defeat in Newcastle. Jose Caminero, who scored the vital equaliser against France, was left out this time as coach Javier Clemente made four changes, bringing back Juan Antonio Pizzi, suspended after the first match, and giving the winger Javier Manjarin his first start,

ter 11 minutes. There could be no complaints about its execution - a shot placed with precision by the 26year-old, who side-footed beyond the reach of Prunea from a little inside the penalty area even if there was good fortune in its creation. The ball ran kindly for Manjarin after a driven effort by Jose Emilio Amavisca

which he marked with a goal af-

had struck the heel of Pizzi. What is more, it went against the run of a first half in which the Romanians did much to restore their pride. The beauty of Romania's play in that period, the measure of what the tournament will miss in their absence, was captured in the goal that levelled the score after 29 minutes.

Worked out of their own penalty area by Anton Dobos and Dan Petrescu, the ball travelled to the halfway line, where Ovidiu Stinga played the neatest of one-twos with Gheorghe Hagi near the right-hand touchline before allowing Florin Raducioiu at last to spring Spain's offside trap with a perfectly weighted pass. Raducioiu fin-ished the move expertly, sliding the ball under the advancing

Andoni Zubizarreta. to thank for keeping them lev-el, the Chelsea defender defy-To be on terms at that stage was Romania's right, Spain hav-

SPARR: (4-1.4-1): Zubbzarrete (Velencie); Lopez (Alierto Maddd), Alierte: (Real Maddd), Abelando (Barcalona), Sengi (Barcalona); Hierro (Real Madnd); Hianjanto (Deportro La Contre); Killeo (Aliertoo Madrid), Nadel (Barcalona) (Aliertoo Madrid), Pizzi (Tarrettie), Sebattlahas; Amor (Barcalona) for Abelanto, GC: Geor-rero (Athletic Bilbao) for America, 71; Al-Toneo (Real Bella) for Pizzi, 56.

at further disharmony seedorf said prior to last night's

scored, a clever free-kick de-

served better than to end in a

Popescu's shot clearly deflect-

ed wide off a defender's body.

shaped by three substitutions,

proved a different proposition.

Within minutes of the restart,

Prunea was stretching to guide

a dipping shot by Manjarin over

his crossbar. Then he saved at

close range from Amavisca, who should have scored from Alfon-

ing Fernando Hierro after

Amor, released by Kiko on the right had crossed behind the

gi's deep left-wing cross back across goal, his efforts reward-

ed when Amor flung himself

Poor Romania had not even

the consolation of a point after

a tournament marred by the bit-

ter aftermath of Dorinel Mun-

teanu's "goal that never was" against Bulgaria. For Hagi, win-

ning his 100th cap, the only oth-

er memento was a yellow card

forward to head home.

Finally came the goal, made possible by Alfonso's mighty leap at the far post to direct Ser-

Then Romania had Petrescu

so's return pass.

Romanian defence.

In the second half, Spain, re-

ing been content to defend, aldeparture of his close friend. lowing Romania to dominate Edgar Davids, was far from possession while they waited for over. the chance to attack on the "The storm hasn't died yet," Seedorf said. Dutch journalists break. It was a dangerous game. Indeed, Romania might have eshave spoken of the squad being tablished a clear advantage. divided, with two major camps Just before the Spaniards

disputing the controversial de-parture of Davids. Davids, who is moving to Milan from Ajax this summer, goal-kick to Spain when Gica was sent home last weekend after openly criticising Hiddink following his omission for the Swiss game at Villa Park last

Mimic 1423

the feel of

the green

j## ...

ia.

According to reports in some Dutch papers, Seedorf's comments suggest that a wider agenda may be aired during talks with the management, with rumours of racial allega-

tions circulating.
"I am glad the conflict has come out into the open because it has become a major issue." Seedorf said. The Sampdoria midfielder refused to comment on whether he would return home himself in support of Davids, but he warned: "The

whole thing is not over yet."
The former Ajax player added that both sides were now taking the opportunity of putting their opposing views to each other. "It is on the table. We are discussing it." he ex-

In the wake of the dispute the captain Danny Blind had urged his side not to let it distract them from their performances on the pitch. "It can be a big problem when you don't play to 100 per cent with your heart yourselves," the Ajax de-fender said.

shown after he kicked the ball away when a decision went against him.

Playing at international level, you learn to accept some of the diving and acting. We shouldn't. This is deliberate and calculated cheating

spicuously low-scoring tournament. The tiredness of the players may well have contributed to the veritable flood of German and Croat goals, but it is generally harder to score goals at international level now. Teams all over Europe, and indeed the world, have become more defensively co-ordinated. Even relatively poor players installed in an organised structure can be difficult to break down.

I am not only talking about the Luxembourgs and Lichtensteins. The Scotland team progressed to these finals on the same sort of defensive base, conceding only three goals in 10 qualifying games. Most teams in this competition prefer to play systems that allow one, or at best two forwards. They soak up pressure in the hope of scoring on the break. It becomes mind-numbingly tedious when both try to do it at the same time. Scotland struggled because to play that way you need pace and guile up front. Sadly, we have no Stoichkov, Klinsmann or Davor Suker.

These systems invariably employ some of them out of a job in this a sweeper or a third centre-back. Their popularity blossomed when managers realised that they provided the perfect means to foil the rigid and conventional 4-4-2 and 4-3-3 formations.

Amazingly, it has been the Italians under Sacchi, who have tried to employ the dated and rather British flat back four, with the midfielders pressing the opposition. Sadly for the Azzuri, it immediately looked naive against the Czech Republic, when their lack of depth was exposed to great effect for the game's first goal.

Another less obvious, though no less important, reason why teams are forgoing a forward concerns the directive for stricter refereeing. Because professional fouls inevitably lead to a red card and even a mistimed tackle elicits a yellow, it is safer to defend in numbers than to trust in the tackling abilities of a skilled defender. Hence the need for extra cover at the back.

So an adoption brought in to help attackers has managed to help put

tournament. The overzealousness of the referees demanded by Uefa has never enjoyed the full support of the players, especially in these islands. The red card shown to the Italian Apolloni against the Czech Republic managed to spoil one of the classic games of the tournament, although it continued to be an in-

card was for a raised-foot challenge that had no malice in it at all. It was also disappointing to see the Dutch coach, Guus Hiddink, having to replace Clarence Seedorf before half-time in the Swiss match, for fear that one more slightly misjudged tackle would see the talent-

triguing encounter. He should not

have been sent off. The first yellow

We are in danger of losing the art of tackling as players become un-derstandably over wary of being booked. A fine example of the skill came from Stuart McCall in the game against the Netherlands. His nament. They would need a squad last-ditch, perfectly timed lunge in of 22 equally talented players to stand the six-yard box to deny a certain any chance of proceeding.

ed defensive midfielder dismissed.



COMMENTARY

PAT NEVIN goal was one of the most exciting

moments of that game. Players such as McCall, and in-deed the whole Scottish team, will not be able to survive at international level if their terrier-like tackling is curtailed. The smaller nations' chances are also lessened by the certainty of suspensions later in the tour-

A similar situation arose in the Premier League last year. As the referese became more card happy, the odd, undeliberate, mistimed chalerees became more card happy, the wealthy teams who could afford a large, high-quality playing staff had a growing advantage over those with limited resources. The more the bookings and suspensions accumulated near the end of the season, the less the smaller clubs were capable

One of the most offensive traits in Euro 96 is that of players gesturing to the referee to use his cards. often for the most innocuous of chal-lenges. The idea of so blatantly trying to get a fellow pro into trouble is repulsive to most British players. If it continues to happen to them. do not be surprised if our lads feel the need to fight fire with fire, How-ever, the idea of Colin Hendry pleading with the ref to send an opponent off, after the gentlest of

idges, is difficult to imagine. Playing at international level, you learn to accept some of the diving, acting and general rolling about. We shouldn't. This is deliberate and

lenges that seem to offend Ucfa so

Jürgen Klinsmann became very popular in England not only because he was very talented but also because he realised that the culture of our game would not accept the excessive histrionics so prominent earlier in his career. The one-time villain adapted his game accordingly and became a hero.

Other areas that should be targeted by match officials in this championship are shirt-tugging and blocking at set-pieces. Obvious shirt-tugging isn't a problem - yel-low cards are compulsory and frequent here. It is the more subtle, off-the-ball variety that has to be dealt with. In Continental football. the shirt is pulled long before the ball reaches your area. The pass invariably runs out of play or through to the goalkeeper as the defenders yank has checked the momentum of your run. Referces are blissful-

fixed 50 yards away at the inception of the pass.

There is a similar problem with blocking. Officials are busy watching the kick being taken and checking that the wall stays 10 yards back. Meanwhile, in the box, every run is deliberately and illegally blocked. The clique of international players laugh at the fact that this standard

practice is never punished.

Every national team works on this blocking tactic in training. It is made to look as innocent and acci-dental as possible, but when you have suffered from it time and again, its deliberate nature becomes transparently obvious.

Maybe it is time the suits at Uela HQ, and the referees who are their flak-catchers, started listening to the players and the players' organisations. They do not realise the complexities of what is happening on the pitch. If they accepted the input in good grace. their tweaking of the rules might start to have the desired effect of more goals and more open play.

euro-spy

Pass master will raise Rams' spirits



become the tournament, everyone launched Goran Vlaovic on the knew the name of at least one Croatilities.

tian player. The from the close of Croatia's defenders Igor Stimac and championship debut at the Slaven Bilic were especially fa- City Ground a week ago. It was miliar to supporters of Derby his perception and accuracy County and West Ham, while which enabled Davor Suker to televised Italian football had ensured that Alen Boksic and Milan's Zvonimir Boban

needed no intro-Not much mention among them of Boban's midfield partner, the mophaired Aljosa Asanovic. However, this relative obscurity will soon be left behind if the evi-

dence of Croatia's progress in Euro 96

THE SPOT

much-travelled Asa-The laser-like precision of novic, who has served Metz, Asanovic's long passing caught Montpellier and Cannes in the eye more than once in the France as well as Real Vallafledeling nation's opening two dolld in Spain, cost less that matches and can be expected £1m from Haiduk Split. If his to cause some anxiety for Por- arrival can help Derby hold tugal in Nottingham this af- their own among the monied ternoon as Croatia attempt to élite, Smith will look a complete a 100 per cent record shrewder manager than ever.

complete Denmark's hu-

miliation at Hillsborough

last Sunday: the pas

that dropped so invit-

ingly for Suker to run

on and lob Peter



in Group D.

EURO 96 No 9: Pubs near Hillsborough charged Dan-ish fans a £1 entrance fee last Sunday. Have you come across any monster rip-offs? If so, far details to Euro-spy on 0171 293 2894.

Mrmic likes the feel of the green



Croatia's reserve goalkeeper, Mar-ijan Mrmic, will take home a memento of Euro % even if he fails to make an appearance on the pitch during the tournament. According to a Split news-

paper, Slobodna Dalmacija, Mrmic has fallen in love with English grass - and not the va-riety which tends to prompt Football Association suspen-"It simply invites you to

walk on it, run on it or even throw yourself on it." Mrmic. who plays for the small provincial club Varteks Varacdin, has said. "I have decided to grow English grass in front of my house at home." Meanwhile. Croatia's last

opponents, the Danish Euro ob squad, managed to upset a wedding party on Saturday night. The post-nuptials disco was transferred from a function suite at the Weetwood Hall Hotel to a marquee in the car park so as not to disturb the beauty sleep of the Dan-

ish players.

Judging by the result the following day, when the Danes were soundly beaten 3-0 by Croatia down the road at Hillsborough, their wellprotected slumbers did not do them much good...

Japanese fans adopt Romanians



Some Japanese students enrolled at Durham University have adopted the Romanians as "their" team and have surprised both players and neutral observers with the passion of their support. More than 30 students attended one training session, many of them parad me the team's vellow kit and pleading to have it auto-

We think they are very friendly, very nice and very handsome," one female fan, Nana Sato from Tokyo, said. "We want to support them as much as we can.

"We went to Newcastle to support the team (against Bulgarial. Noriko Hara said. That is where we all bought our team shirts. There are no more left in the shop now - at least not in small sizes."

Romania's defender Dar Petrescu, who plays for Chelsea, said: "It is very nice to see them here to support us. We like it because it gives some more motivation and they are very happy to see us. But, I must admit. I am surprised they are so enthusiastic."

FOOTBALL: THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

"Vorsprung durch Technik? Nee, Jungs! Bei Klinsmann geht's um Talent."

which is German for: "Advantage through technical research? No, mate! With Klinsmann it's sheer talent."

Bald facts hit Sacchi in the face

GUY HODGSON

Arrigo Sacchi's words in the programme for Group C are becoming more appropriate by the ties," the Italian coach said about Euro 96. Either I shall be kissed all over my bald pate or tomatoes will be aimed at it."

As the Italians prepare for Schmeichel came from Asanovic's boot. their final group match, against One man in Eng-Germany at Old Trafford toland who had previous night, the likelihood is that any knowledge of these red marks left on Sacchi's head qualities was the will not be lipstick. His team are in serious jeopardy of failing to reach the quarter-finals, and he Derby County man-ager, Jim Smith, who may well have pulled could be out of a job within a off the transfer coup few weeks. of the summer. Thi

Since the 2-1 defeat by the Czech Republic last Friday, Sacchi's compatriots have been queuing to stick the verbal knife in. Salvatore Riina, the selfstyled Maha boss of bosses, is standing trial in Florence at the moment but still took time to tell a lawyer, "Sacchi uses suicide tactics and suicide choices". Gianluca Vialli, meanwhile, has said he wants to score as many goals as possible for Chelsea just to embarrass Sacchi for leaving him out of Euro 96.

"We do not deserve to go home," Sacchi pleaded yesterday, "We have played a high standard of football. But we can't just hope to beat Germany: we must be convinced that we can do it." To reinforce that conviction, he has recalled the strikers Gianfranco Zola and Pierluigi Casiraghi while Roberto di Matteo comes into midfield for Dino Baggio and Amedeo Carboni takes over from the

Sunderland

try to tempt

Lechkov

The Sunderland manager, Pe-

ter Reid, hopes to sign Bulgar-

ia's outstanding midfielder

suspended Luigi Apolloni at left-back.

Sacchi knows his history and his reference to tomatoes recalls the last time Italy played in a major tournament in England in 1966 - and were pelted by supporters after an ignominious exit. Another dip into the record books is more agreeable. In 1982 the Italians began the World Cup miserably with three poor draws but ended up the winners. On that occasion the Italians needed a 1-1 draw against Cameroon to get through their qualifying group, a wholly different proposition to trying to defeat the Germans.

Indeed, it is difficult to imagine opponents you would dread more under the circumstances. Particularly as Germany themselves conceivably fail to qualify although it would need a "pigs might fly" sequence of results. For aerial bacon, the f would have to win 4-0, and the last time Germany suffered a loss by four goals was in the finals of the 1954 World Cup. A more realistic route to the last eight for the Italians is to get at least a draw tonight and pray that the Czech Republic fail to match them against Russia at Anfield. It is a hope that

was hardly enhanced yesterday by the news that Russia's top striker, Sergei Kirvakov, has been dismissed from the squad "for undermining the morale of the team", according to Oleg Romantsev, the Russian coach, Kiryakov, who plays for Germany's Karlsruhe, has scored 14 goals for Russia in 33 appearances but only came on as substitute in the 2-1 loss to Italy and



did not play in the 3-0 drubbing by Germany. Apart from Kiryakov's banishment, Yevgeni Bushmanov is out of the tournament with an ankle injury while Russia will also be without the suspended defenders Yuri Kovtun and Viktor Onopke.

HITI SHO YEROF CHROPAN, TALY W Germany, Old Trafford, today, 7.30; Peruzzi Iskerinsi; Musali Parma, Castacurta Iškini, Meldini Iskini, Cashoni Ponai, Fuser Jazo, Di Mattee Lazo, Albertini Katari, Qonadoni theo Yosh Ni kenoSizri; Zole (Parmai, Casiraghi Ilazo). GERMANY (probabe, Köpke German, Reuter Latt., Sammer (Bonzs) Dominal, Reuter

amann layen august, septent (Jonese, CZECH REPUBLIC y Rosgia, Anfeld, Indey, 7.30): Koube (Souta Proges: Latel ISchalbe Ost, Suchoperek (Souta Proges, Nedved ISpata Proges, Kabila IPera Dribnoce), Ne-med (Schalle Ost, Poborsky, Slanc Proges, Kulka (Kauerskutern, Bejbi (Sluna Prages,

Portuguese wary of collecting their cards

Yordan Lechkov after the Euia in the quarter-finals of Euro ropean Championship. Lechkov, who played in all % by avoiding a heavy defeat against them in the closing three of Bulgaria's Group B match of Group D at Nottinggames and stood out at USA 94, ham Forest's City Ground today. s in dispute with his German It would seem an undeclub, Hamburg, and they have told him to find a new team. manding task given Croatia have already qualified for the They have lined up Croatia's last eight and are ready to rest several key players. However, Antonio Oliveira, the Portu-Robert Prosinecki, of Barce-

next Sunday's quarter-final.

Oliveira has accused referees

of picking on his players. He

said: "We have videotaped all

games in the tournament so far

and I can say there is a very wide

difference in the criteria being

used for the award of yellow

cards to the Portugal national

team than there is for others."

worry over the Barcelona mid-

fielder Luis Figo, who turned an

ankle in training and is having

ice-pack treatment. Oliveira

has other problems to contend

with: he still has not found a

striker who can provide the

finishing touch to his team's in-

tricate approach work.

The coach also has an injury

lona, as his replacement. Lechkov has been linked against his team. with Arsenal, but Sunderland are prepared to offer £1.5m. He has the option of returning to tos misses the game after colhis former club CSKA Sofia, but lecting two yellow cards, and six he is expected to move to Engother players have incurred land instead if Reid sells the alone booking apiece - another would ban any of them from lure of Sunderland to him.

The Walsall manager, Chris Nicholl, has agreed to stay with the Midlands team for another year, quelling rumours linking him with the vacancy at his old club Southampton.

The Walsall chairman, Jeff Bonser, said yesterday he was delighted Nicholl had agreed to sign another one-year contract. "He feels we have the potential to win promotion to the First Division, but it has been a long joh persuading him to stay," Bonser said.

The 26-year-old goalkeeper Colin Scott has left Rangers for the chance of first-team football and a two-year contract with

Sporting Lisbon's Ricardo Claus Thomsen, who has called Sa Pinto has started both games on his country's army of fans to Portugal will try to join Croatbut, despite a goal against Den-mark, has not convinced. He was substituted against Turkey after a had miss in the first half.

Oliveira was asked if he could be tempted to recall Porto's Domingos, the leading scorer in the Portuguese championship last season, but all he would say was: "Domingos will be play if guese coach, feels the fates are the circumstances are suitable Davor Suker, the two-goal The defender Paulinho San-

hero against Denmark last Sunday, is likely to be one of those rested by the Croat coach, Miroslav Blazevic, who is already without the defender Nikola Jerkan, the victim of a broken nose against Denmark. The striker Alen Boksic may return despite a throat infection which kept him out at Hills-

borough. Denmark, the holders, have only a slim chance of making the quarter-finals as they are third in the group, three points adrift of Portugal. The Danes must secure a convincing victory over Turkey at Hillsborough today and hope Croatia beat Portugal.

The Danes have injury worries over their captain. Michael Laudrup, the defender Thomas Helveg and the striker Mikkel Beck. One man likely to play his third game of the tournament is the Ipswich Town midfielder

make an impact. "They've been superb so far, just as we knew they would, and we would love to give them something to really shout about." he said.
"We watched the video of our

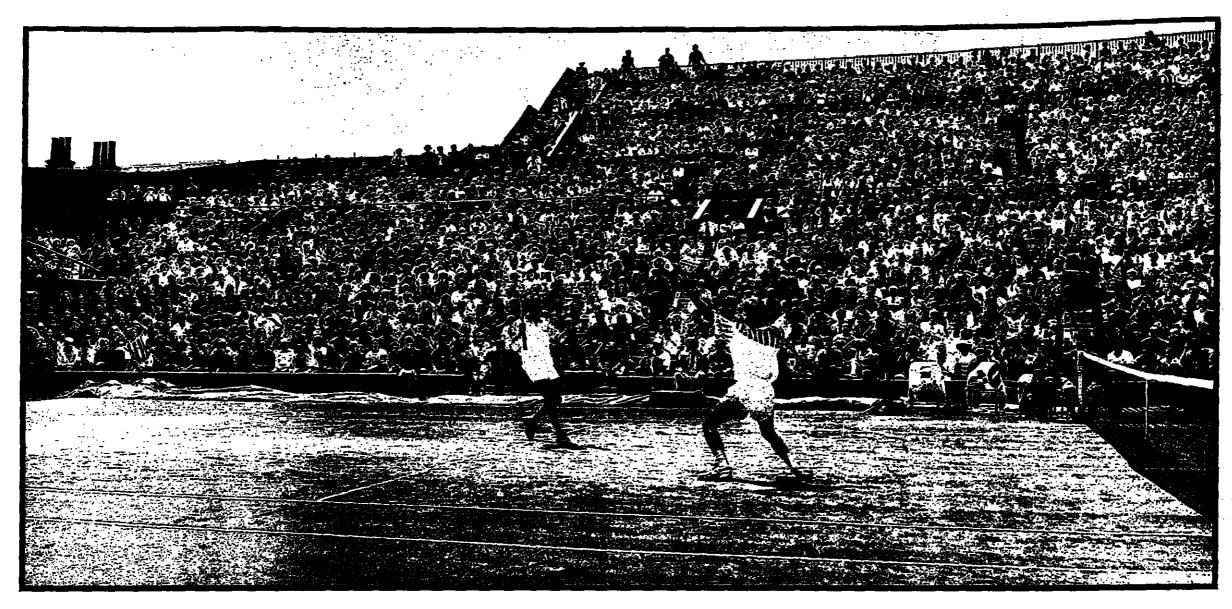
defeat by Croatia, but if we sat down and talked about all the mistakes we made, we would be here until Christmas." Thomsen added. "We may have only a slight chance of going through. but we are professionals and we will try our best."

Homeward-bound Turkey whose defensive midfielder Tolunay Kafkas is suspended, are likely to field the team which started against Portugal.

PROBABLE TEAMS: PORTIGAL IV Crootia, City Ground, Inday, 4-301: Vitor Baier (Par-na), Secretaria (Porto), Fernando Coute (Par-ma), Heider (Bertica), Dinas (Bertica), Folha (Parto), Paulo Soute (Juverus), Raj Cer-ta (Forentra), Figo (Barcelans), Sa Pinto (Spotting Lisbon), João Pinto (Bentica). CROATA: Ladie (Crosta Zagreb); Stimes (Derby Courth), Bille (West Ham), Pavilicle (Hercules Alcarch), Brajtavie (1860 Numch), Bobon (Mian), Misdemovie (Gamba Osakat, Pamile (Osakat, Prosinceki (Barcelona), Visavie (Padovor, Critanovie (Crosta Zogreb), DENMARK (v Turkey, Hitsborough, boday, 4.30): Schmeichel (Manchester Unsed), 1.00 (Manchester Un



حكدًا من الأصل



No 1 for all the hits

o more do I hear the sweet terwards he made no excuses and merely ound of white tennis balls flyng from wooden rackels. No more do Joan Hunter Dunns flit around in Ted Tinling dresses with the odd peep of lace beneath. No more do men of grace blow kisses to pretty faces in the crowd; instead, they throw sweat-soaked shirts into a forest of eager arms. These changes to Wimbledon came

slowly, almost imperceptibly, but at the end of this year's Championships, the original Court No 1 will be obsolete. Eventually, the bulldozers will move in and in one mechanical swoop will reduce Court No 1 to a pile of anonymous rubble, to be dumped who-knows-where. Memories are not so easily demolished. Although it did not have a Royal Box and

was destined to be a semi-detached poor relation to the mansion next door, Court No 1 had a life and an atmosphere of its own. Seldom did a day's play pass that the great cheers of its loyal devotees did not echo around the Centre Court, and make 12,000 people think that they were in the

They often were, and never more so than in the first Championships after the war in 1946. The frustration must have been excruciating as they sat in their seats and listened to the rapturous applause from the place next door. For it was on Court No 1 that the sad-faced Jaroslav Drobny, whose native Czechoslovakia was only just free from occupation, was beating the clean-cut US Marine Jack Kramer.

The American had conceded only five games on his way to the fourth round, was the No 2 seed and the public favourite to take the title at his first attempt. After one of the most thrilling matches played on any court, Drobny won by 2-6, 17-15, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. The drama was not confined to the power produced from Drobny's left arm, for at the change of ends it was obvious that Kramer was in serious trouble.

He was suffering from an injured hand. What started with small blisters had developed into a raw wound by the end of the 32-game second set. There were no chairs on court, no two-minute rest periods in those days, so at each opportunity Kramer snatched a few forbidden seconds to try to soften the path with sticking plasters. Afsaid that the best man on the day had won. In my demob suit, and green pork-pie hat with a red feather, this was my first Wimbledon as a Fleet Street junior reporter, and

I had been consigned to Court No 1.
Seeing "things" were happening, I left
my press seat and got myself a place behind the umpire's chair, where I could see Kramer's plight and almost feel his pain. i wrote my story full of blood, guts, colour and quotes. I was proud of what was to be my first big Wimbledon byline, but when I showed my copy to my sports editor, who had been on the Centre Court, he said: "Sonny, this is too good for you," and with a few minor changes it appeared in the pa-per next morning under his name. Kramer and I learned a lot that day.

Although the court was a semi-detached poor relation to the mansion next door, it had a life and an atmosphere of its own

In the quiet hours when the music is soft

and the whisky mellow, memories, so many memories, of the doomed court where our youthful summers drifted into old age come flooding back. There was the laughter when Connors and Nastase appeared in the doubles with umbrellas when it threatened to rain; and there was McEnroe. How the Court hated him in 1981. People thought then that he should have been disqualified, some still do. He screamed at the umpire: "You are the pits." He insulted the referee, and he yelled at the crowd: "I am so disgusting you shouldn't watch. Everybody leave." This was a first-round match against nice guy Tom Gullikson. Instead of packing his bags, as he should have done, he won the Championship so preventing Bjorn Borg winning a record six in a row.

Eleven years later, when McEnroe had won the singles title three times and the dou-

Wimbledon's second most famous court will stage its final dramas in the next fortnight. Laurie Pignon salutes a cherished battleground

bles twice, all the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune were forgotten and Court No I was in love with him again. It was a roaring, boisterous, bellowing love when with Michael Stich he returned on the third Monday to finish his doubles final.

When play had stopped at 9.22pm on Sunday night, the score stood at 13-13 in the final set after four and a half hours of play. Although the match could have end-ed in a few minutes, many McEnroe fans queued all night for the finish. When their final resumed against Jim Grabb and Richey Reneberg, the court was full to its 7,500 capacity, with everyone getting in free

Ten more games were played in 34 min-utes before McEnroe and Stich won 5-7, 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, 19-17. The total of 83 games in five hours, one minute was a record for the crowd, McEnroe and Stich repeated their lap of honour, and the biggest cheer came when John offered the trophy to his son, who was at courtside with his mother. Tatum O'Neal. A moment poignant for a couple who were soon to part.

Boris Becker's memories of Court No 1 in 1987 are "nicht so schon", and it was probably his own fault. At 19, he had twice won the Championship and he was up against Peter Doohan, a little-fancied Australian whom he had defeated with ease at Queen's

Club a couple of weeks previously. Doohan didn't fancy his chances, either. He was staying at the local YMCA and had booked his flight out of England, but, like all good Aussies, he loved a fight when the stakes were high. Rain had delayed this second round match until Friday afternoon. At first, Becker seemed to be a victim of his own arrogance, which hardly endeared him to the crowd, who hungered for a big upset. And they got it, for the fiery, acro-batic German was beaten 7-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, and the roar of the crowd echoed around an envious Centre Court. Afterwards, a still angry Becker told the world's press: "Of course I am disappointed, but

I didn't lose a war. There is no one dead; it was just a tennis match."

There were not too many tears shed for Becker, but I must admit there was a hint of a Puccini drama when Chrissy Evert was beaten 6-1, 7-6 by Kathy Jordan in the third round. It was the first time in 11 Wimbledons that she failed to reach the semi-finals. The sun did not shine on Court No 1 that day and her unexpected exit made the place seem a little duller and a little

greyer. The year was 1983. Chrissy is not a Mimi and not quite a Musetta. Watching from the sideline, and at times almost close enough to touch her, I felt as if I were in a world of bad dreams. I had seen her lose before, but this time she was a thin ghost of the player normal-ly feared by her contemporaries. She looked pale and frail, yet offered no word terwards, we discovered that she had been ill during the night and a doctor had to be called out at 2am.

Even before the South African Billie Tap-scott shocked Wimbledon in 1927 by appearing on court minus stockings, fashion has always been a feature of lawn tennis, and the most glamorous of all events was the now defunct Wightman Cup. This an-nual match between the British and American women was played on Court No 1 from 1946 to 1972.

Andrew Lloyd Webber could have written a musical about it, Monet could have painted it in three shades of light and Shelley would have certainly composed an ode about it, for the great West Open Stand which over the years grew taller and tailer was festooned with colour and was a wondrous sight to behold.

There were rows upon rows of girls in summer uniform dresses; some schools in pink, others in blue, or green, or yellow or lilac. There were panama hats galore, and a few battered boaters beside, but all wore regulation white socks and "sensible"

They may have looked like a wall of in-

nocent flowers reaching up to that tent of blue, but once they were out of reach of were in the winning line-up. By Jove! We their games mistresses, and play began, decorum was replaced by such a cacophony of screams of delight that local residents might have thought that pig-sticking had come to SW19. Their enthusiasm was so infectious that those in the posh seats joined in and felt young again.

Baron de Coubertin's aristocratic and

now completely ignored Olympic creed of being more important to take part than to win might have been penned for the British teams, for during all those summers on Court No 1, they were only successful in the Wightman Cup on three occasions. Then the atmosphere was such that I am surprised we didn't all drown in our own euphoria.

When McEnroe had won the singles three times and the doubles twice, all was forgotten and Court No 1 was in love with him again

Never more so than in 1958, when we broke the spell of 28 years of failure and the girl who made it possible was Christine Truman, who won all three of her matches. Her staggering victory over Althea Gibson after dropping the first set was one of the greatest women's matches played on the court. Christine was 17 and Miss Gibson the reigning Wimbledon champion. She was the first black champion: powerful, athletic, she played every stroke as if the pride of her African heritage depended upon it. In contrast, Christine, the sweetheart of British tennis, was never quite sure what the score was and kept bashing her mighty forehand willy-nilly. The inno-cence of Christine was all too much for the American.

Two years later, Britain again defeated the United States, 4-3. This time Ann Haydon, who as Mrs Jones was to become Wirnbledon Champion nine years later, and

were in the winning line-up. By Jove! We could play the game in those golden days. The last successful year on Court No 1 was 1968, when Virginia Wade (the 1977 Centenary Champion) cast aside all her theatrical uncertainties and produced a masterly display of controlled arrogance which, when in full flight, made her one of the most enthralling and at times exasperating players to watch.

At 1-3 on the start of the second day's

whitaker returns as an eager native

play, Britain's chances seemed hopeless. Miss Wade made it 2-3 with her second singles and 3-3 with her doubles with Winnie Shaw. Then came the final dramatic crunch: the Truman sisters, Christine and Nell, against Stephanie DeFina and Kathy Harter. There has never been a match like it nor will there be one like it again. Winners were hit off the wood, outrageous mishits clipped the lines, and rallies were so hectic that they might have been playing on hot coals.

At one vital and hilarious point, I dropped and broke my expensive calabash pipe, and in the excitement a man in the heart at Someone was heard to remark: "He might have waited until the change of ends." It was getting dark and damp during that final agonising game during which our dear Christine twice fell flat on the court. The normally solid American girls were bewildered by it all; and the crowd bewitched.

Unlike fading photographs, memories become brighter with age, and I would not swap mine for a fistful of tomorrows. Goodbye, old friend, I hope that your elegant replacement, minus free standing, brings as much pleasure as old Court No l, a place of so many youthful dreams that bulldozers cannot destroy.

Laurie Pignon reported from Wimbledon for the first time 50 years ago and has not missed a Championship since.

Picture: John McEnroe (left) and Michael Stich celebrate after their epic victo-ry over Richey Reneberg and Jim Grabb in the 1992 Wimbledon men's doubles final after five hours and one minute's play spread over two days on No 1 Court Photograph: David Ashdown

Can Wimbledon bring the best out of Agassi again? bledon, '94 the Open, and '96 will be big yet.' His tallor, the Nike tennis rep lan Hamilton, agreed. Conceding that Agis-

\$ ● 0



motivation will not be a problem in SW19 Photograph: David Ashdown

s the Big W looms, the Big Wonder is on. What has happened to Andre Agassi?

At the French Open last month, overweight and unmotivated, he was well beaten in the second round by a journeyman called Christopher Woodruff. Sporting his latest look (the Bruce Willis cueball coiffure), Agassi had died easy, rolled into a side pocket - and he didn't want to talk about it.

Ducking the mandatory press conference brought a \$2,000 fine, but he could not avoid the question that has come to dominate the tennis season: has the Glitz Kid become the Skids Kid?

Thus far, Agassi is having as bad a year as John Major and Bob Dole, as flat as his belly isn't. Search the record for a really good win, and you find one: a Jannary rebound from 0-2 in sets to beat Jim Courier at the Australian Open. Then only to lose despondently to Michael Chang while blaming the wind.

A first-round loss to Luke Jensen at Memphis must have been a dive worthy of Greg Louganis.

Agassi has won one tournament - the Lipton - because the other finalist, Goran Ivanisevic, woke up that day with a neck as inflexible as his on-court thought processes and quit after a few unproduc-

What are the reasons for this midtennis-life malaise? His rival Pete Samoras thinks it dates back nine months to the

September afternoon at Flushing Meadow when he deposed Agassi as the US champion, 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5. Maybe even to "The Point" - their brilliant all-court give-and-take, point-and-counterpoint

barrage that Agassi seemed to win several times as it lengthened. Yet it concluded on Sampras's roaring crosscourt backhand. on the 19th stroke.

It has been a bad year, but the champion of '92 may yet surprise his critics, writes Bud Collins

That was a stroke of doom, closing the first set. Later, scripted as the unkillable point, it was reconstructed and preserved as a droll, memorable Nike commercial, now more renowned than the match itself. "Andre hasn't been quite the same since then," Sampras said. "Something seemed

to go out of him. But you can't write him. off. He's still got the best forehand, the best backhand, the best return of serve that

I've been up against."
Pancho Segura, who coached Agassi briefly, shakes his head. "Too much money. It's a shame he's wasting all that talent. For a while, he got it straight, but now he doesn't seem to know what's more important-competitiveness or commercials. He isn't keeping them in the right perspective." Not that everyone regards Agassi as in permanent decline. One friend said: "Andre's an every-other-year guy: '92 Wim-

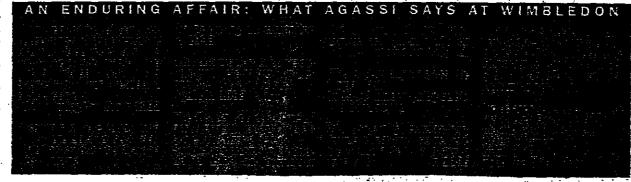
si was not ready for Paris, he said: "Andre will come into Wimbledon concentrating. He's one gay I don't worry about here. This is major major. Remember what Wimbledon means to him. They said he'd never win a Grand Slam, and in '92 he was the most unlikely of all, wimbledon. He'll be eager, all right."

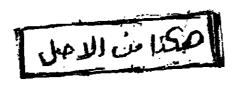
Agasa's coach, Brad Gilbert, the author of Winning Light, a how to tennis treatise, saw his pupil losing ugly in the French Open and shrugged, "Just a bad day at the office." But Centre Court isn't another office. It's the executive suite.

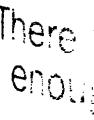
fice. It's the executive suite.

Agassi, who turned down invitations to the US team in 1988 and 1992, has made much of his desire for an Olympic gold medal, pointing himself toward Atlanta. But, thanks to his early departure from Paris he's had nearly a month to re-tool. His trainer, Gil Rejes, says a different Andre will be unveiled when the

We can only wait and wonder. That's the eternal mystique of Andre, he of the showbiz fizz. Even when you can get the boy ont of Vegas, you can't get Vegas out of the vegas out. of the boy.







the cricket page 7

Whitaker returns as an eager native

THE WEEK **AHEAD**

David Byas is not the only Yorkshireborn captain who believes he is leading a side capable of winning the County Championship.

The other is James Whitaker, an exile throughout his professional career, who will not lack motivation when he arrives with his Leicestershire troops at the Park Avenue ground in Bradford tomorrow.

When he agreed last winter to take over from Nigel Briers, the match against Yorkshire was the first he wanted to find in the season's programme. Born in Skipton, Whitaker. 34, recalls frequent trips to the Leeds nets as a precociously talented teen-ager, encouraged by his father, head of the family's speciality chocolates business, who had no sweeter dream than to see his son defending the county's honour at Headingley. Unfortunately for Whitaker senior

the boy's talents were not appreciated until he was installed at Uppingham School and making an impression on Leicestershire. He was recommended unhesitatingly to them by their former player Maurice Hallam, who was Uppingham's cricket master.

Divided loyalties can be discounted. Indeed, should he do something memorable over the next few days it would not be the first time he has been inspired to do so in opposition.
In the autumn of 1993, pressed into

service by an injury to Briers, he had the good fortune to lead Leicestershire against Yorkshire. Not only was he moved to score his first Championship century for two years, he also plotted a 74-run victory.

He has no doubt he has a side equipped to unseat his native coun-We have a well-balanced team with bags of ability and a great spirit," he said. "If you look at our record over the last few seasons we have always been among the leading sides and we are good enough to challenge

Tomorrow, Leicestershire must manage without Alan Mullally, one of the architects of that 1993 victory, and face a Yorkshire side full of confidence after defeating Warwickshire at Headingley to stretch their Championship lead to 14 points. In their current mood, Michael Bevan, Michael Vaughan and Tony Mc-Grath could take some containing, while Darren Gough is rediscovering his form at just the right time not quite ready for England and eager to fire for his county.

For their part, the Mi need to restore their self-belief after being mauled twice by Surrey, in the Championship and the Sunday League, in which they were bowled

Elsewhere, Kent, whose hopes of keeping Yorkshire within touching distance were frustrated by a resurgent Middlesex at Canterbury, will not win points easily at Warwickshire, who can be expected to react to their second Championship defeat of the season with renewed vigour.

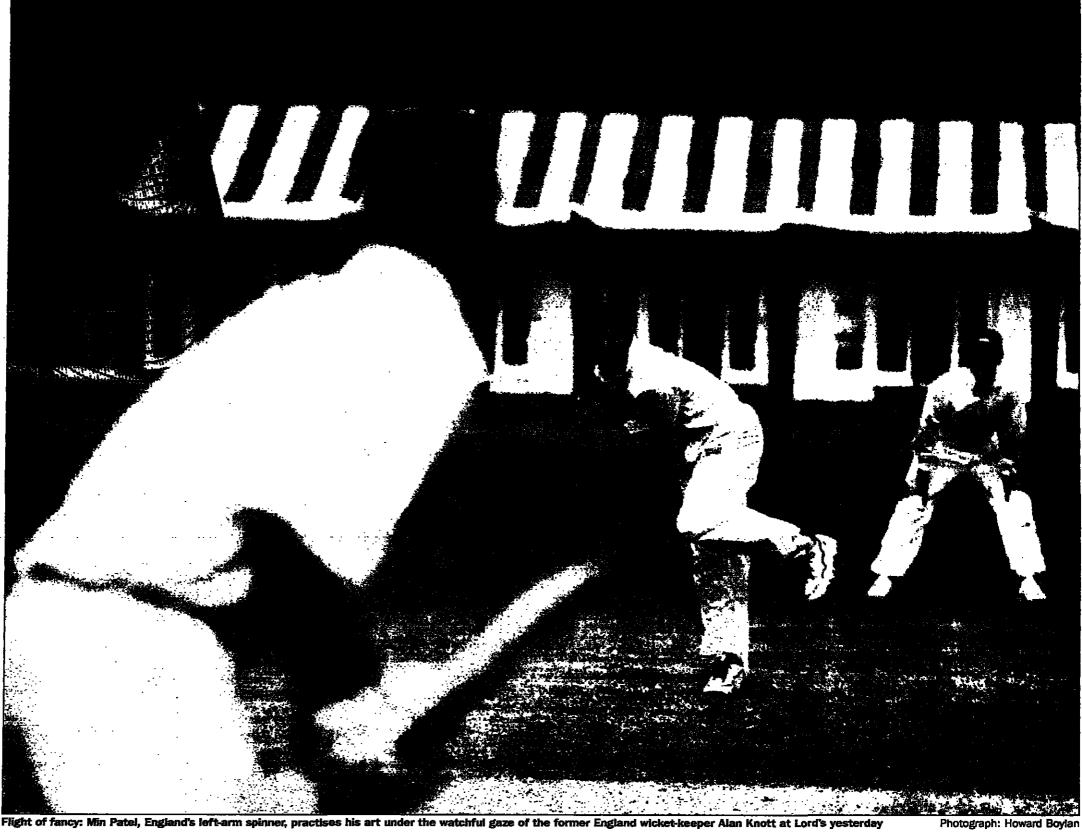
It has taken only a small blip in the champions normally steady upward graph to bring the individual quality of their players - as opposed to their team - into question. In the past, nothing has motivated them more.

A fascinating encounter is in prospect at Derby, where the home side, forcefully led by Dean Jones and with Devon Malcolm coming out of his understandable slump, begin two points behind third-placed Middlesex.
As a first success, Surrey's defeat of Leicestershire was overdue. They

lose Chris Lewis, Graham Thorpe and Alec Stewart but will hope to build on the gain against struggling Durham at Stockton, where they might also give their Sunday League prospects a lift before concentrating on a match with a touch of Euro 96 about it, against the Netherlands in he NatWest Trophy on Tuesday.

Jon Culley

sassi agai



Patel near the end of pilgrimage to Lord's

England's latest left-arm spinner had to wait a long time to get his first taste of Test cricket. Now he is desperate for more. Adam Szreter talked to him

Patel was chosen instead for that winter's A tour to India and Bangladesh. His international career finally seemed to have started, but after an indifferent season last year. ter making his first-class debut for he was omitted from the winter's A tour to Pakistan. Now, though, he has Kent when he was 18 and still at

finally tasted the real thing.
"It was fantastic," he said. "The Dartford Grammar School, his career has already been interrupted enough times for a less determined mind to wander. First of all, he went to Manchester for three years to gain an economics degree. Then, when he returned, he injured his right knee so badly he was restricted to just a handful of matches in 1993. The following year was his real breakthrough. He finished as lead-

ing wicket-taker in the country, with 90 first-class wickets, and was on the verge of a call-up to the England squad on more than one occasion.

Interestingly, in the light of Ray-

t 10.30 on Monday

morning, Min Patel is scoffing biscuits at Can-terbury like there's not

only no tomorrow but

of much left of today.

Everything is happening for him at the moment, and he is one hungry

A fortnight ago, he made his Test

debut at Edgbaston for England

Tomorrow, it's Lord's. On Monday,

it was Middlesex at the St Lawrence

for a long bowl. In the event, how-

ever. Middlesex forced a draw and

he drove off in his brand new Renault

Laguna, doubtless dreaming about

bowling Sachin Tendulkar, first ball,

He is only 25 years old, but it has

been a long wait for Minal Patel. Af-

neck and crop.

pround and Patel's left arm was ready

mond Illingworth's comments at the weekend about England need-ing to select players at 22 or 23, Patel was overlooked. Despite his record, there was a belief that his bowling was slightly too negative and Yorkshire's Richard Stemp was

atmosphere was incredible. You always dream about it, then when you're actually out there ... It wasn't an anti-climax at all. It lived up to everything I expected. Playing in front of a big crowd every day, with TV cameras and everything. The first one went very quickly for me - it seemed to start and finish so fast but I enjoyed every moment of it."

He did have one reservation: being asked to field at short leg, "I can't say I was too keen on it, but someone had to do it. The two other new guys [Alan Mullally and Ronnie Irani] were both tall fast bowlers, so they felt that the little short-arse spinner might be the best man to put in there. So there I was."

Patel was born in Bombay and lived there until he was five, when his father decided to move to England. "We came, the whole family, lock, stock and barrel. Me and my

brothers. My father just felt that we would benefit from a Western education, particularly an English education. We initially went to Essex and lived in Ilford for a year, then we settled around the Dartford area, it were fantastic - pretty much like

You always dream about your first Test and it lived up to everything I expected. It wasn't an anticlimax at all - I enjoyed every moment of it'

where we've been for about 20

"I've been back to India on holiday a couple of times, mainly to Bombay, but the A tour there was a real eye-opener. We got to see a lot of the country, all sides of it. I loved the tour. It was great from the cricket point of view, and from the learning about India point of view.

"The guys got on fantastically well, management was superb. We

had Embers [John Emburey] out

there, Phil Neale was the manager.

John Barclay was the tour manag-

er. That's been my only England tour

so far, but if that was anything to go

the first Test at Edgbaston, really, Just a really good vibe in the dressing-room, a really good buzz. "It was disappointing not to get

on last winter's A tour, but the selectors obviously had their reasons. I personally felt I didn't do myself justice last season, so if I haven't done myself justice. I can't expect to go on tour. Simple as that. This season, hopefully, I can put things right."

Like all good craftsmen, Patel strives for perfection, works hard at his technique and welcomes constructive criticism. Perhaps mindful of bowling too negatively, he found last season that he had gone a little too far the other way.

"I spoke to Embers midway through last year, and he said I was bowling a bit slower than I had the year before, probably because you could get away with that in India, where the wickets are more helpful. So I came back and bowled a better pace in the last half of the season. It wasn't a radical change of action or anything, just changing my pace a little." Patel, as you might expect, has thought deeply about his craft, and - as opposed to the black-andwhite images so beloved of the critics - can see the full spectrum. Negative and positive; over the wicket and round the wicket; fast and slow; leg stump and into the rough.

"It depends on what wickets you're playing on, where you're playing and who you're playing against. Everything comes into consideration," he said. "On turning wickets against players who don't

play spin very well, obviously you can get away with bowling a lot slower and teasing them out. Good players use their feet, and on flat wickets you still have to use a little bit of flight and you've also got to have a good change of pace, I think. You just want to keep them guessing as much as anything else.

"The worrying thing from a finger-spinner's point of view is that all the leading spinners in the world at the moment seem to be wrist spinners: Shane Warne, Anil Kumble, Mushtag Ahmed. A wrist-spinner will generally tend to turn the ball more than a finger-spinner, whereas a finger-spinner arguably has more control. But there aren't very many leading finger-spinners in world cricket at the moment, which is a shame. Obviously, with all these top-class leg-spinners, you are going to get lots of kids trying to bowl legspin, which is fantastic for the art of spinning, but hopefully it won't make the job of the finger-spinner redundant.

There is a chance that Patel will be redundant at Lord's and that England might opt for an all-seam attack, but he is optimistic that he will at least make the final XI. "Obviously, we'll have to wait till

we get down there and look at the track. At Edghaston, everyone had anticipated an all-seam attack, but the pitch looked like it was going to wear. In the event, it didn't and I was largely redundant as a bowler. But in county cricket, whenever I've played at Lord's it's always been helpful in the latter stages of the match. If I can win a Test match at Lord's it will be an incredible feeling."

If an England spinner were to win a Test match anywhere, it would be an incredible feeling for

There has been too much chopping and changing, not enough patient nurture of players with obvious class

Two verdicts have been delivered on Raymond Illingworth in the past week. The much-heralded one from the TCCB disciplinary committee is reported by Derek Pringle on page 2. The other was less expected, and has gone largely unnoticed, but is in many ways more interesting.

It came in a newspaper article published last Friday by Ted Dexter, Illingworth's predecessor as chairman of the England selectors. Dexier has been a dignified ex-chairman, going back to the day job he did before (public relations), while refraining from the lucrative sideline (comnentating and writing), on the rounds that it was better not to comnent on his successor's performance. He broke that rule because of two marks in Illingworth's book, One-

Ian Committee. Illy wrote that he

hd "inherited very little" from Dex-

tr, and had therefore been able to

egin with a clean sheet and impose

words so stuck in Dexter's gullet that he showed two hidden sides of his personality: an entertaining bitchiness and an interest in statistics. "Our plain-speaking leader," he

wrote, "has shuttled from selector to team manager and back again without any properly defined new selection policy whatever. And if there has been a new face or two in the England team, it is extraordinary how quickly they have withered on the vine and been replaced, not by new blood but by the same old faces The facts suggest that the cur-

rent chairman has in reality been groping along from match to match, picking from a pool of players illadapted to Test cricket and dogged by injuries galore in much the same way as I was forced to do, and indeed, Peter May before me.

different selection policies". These ed much from me, but why should anyone expect an inheritance any way? Had England been holding the Ashes and the World Cup, I would still be doing the job. It is in the nature of things that each chairman starts on a low note ...

"So to the single player of stature to emerge during Illingworth's time, Dominic Cork, I saw him bowl for England Under-19 at Taunton in 1989. I sent him on three of his four A team tours and personally visited them. Cork made his debut for England at 24 and was immediatev successful. I call that a major inheritance."

Strong stuff, and all supported with detail of the kind that Dexter's critics used to say he could not grasp. He reminds us that Illingworth's first act was to drop five of the heroes of Barbados '94 (Thorpe, Lewis, Russell, Caddick and Tufnell) in Dexter wrote Tufnell when he meant "He [Illy] may not have inherit- favour of Gooch, White, Rhodes, Such, and Such when he meant



TIM DE LISLE

DeFreitas and Such. Two years later, none of these five is still on the scene, while three of the five discards are back and doing well. Dexter was regarded with scep-

ticism by many players, who found him distant. A common reaction to Illingworth is "at least he knows the

Tufnell. (Luckily, he didn't attempt many first names.) No doubt he did see Cork bowl for England Under-19, but if it was at Taunton in 1989, Wisden must have got the venues wrong. He also listed the ages at which various current players have made their debuts and slipped up once or twice: Crawley 23 instead of 22. Ramprakash 22 instead of 21.

But this doesn't mean his general thrust is wrong. He is surely right that Illingworth has never had a clear policy. Whether this matters is another matter. Illy is a pragmatist, not a policymaker, and the job description changed subtly when he took it on - Dexter was chairman of the England committee, with wider responsibilities (which he discharged very well).

And he is right that many of Illy's selections have been bad. Dropping Thorpe in 1994 was a howier. In his book, Illy pins the blame on Mike

Atherton, who wanted Crawley; but team, and would have been if Illy had not been besotted with Craig White.

Dexter's figures show clearly that

he tended to give debuts to younger men than Illy has. (Though if you use 29 players in a series, as Dexter did against the Australians in 1989, some of them are bound to be young.) lily is not good at taking criticism, but this penny appears to have dropped; within two days of Dexter's piece appearing, he was saying to a reporter that he would like to see younger players coming through quicker. He blamed the counties: young stars like Alex Tudor of Surrey "only seem to get the odd game and nothing more". Here he goes again, blaming someone else; but this time it's fair enough. The counties are far too inclined to let old codgers hang around, and not inclined enough to give youth its head.

Illy will be chairman of selectors they should have both been in the for only another two and a half months. He has made many haffling choices (the year-long preference for Rhodes over Russell; McCague and Benjamin for Australia in 1994-95:

White, passim) and some inspired ones (Gough, 1994, Cork in 1995). The best thing that has happened to England recently is David Lloyd whose appointment Illy opposed. The second-best is Nasser Hussain, whose recall Illy set in motion by making him A team captain. There has been too much chopping and changing not enough patient nurture of players with obvious class - Ramprakash, Crawley, Tufnell, Lewis. The upshot has been a results sheet on which spectacular highs alternate with spec-tacular kws. Dexter's right; they have a lot in common.

Tim de Lisle is editor of Wisden Cricket Monthly',



GRAND PRIX '96 RACE SCHEDULE

French GP

German GP

Hungarian GP

June 30 **British GP**

July 14

July 28

August 11

August 25

Italian GP

September 8

Portuguese GP

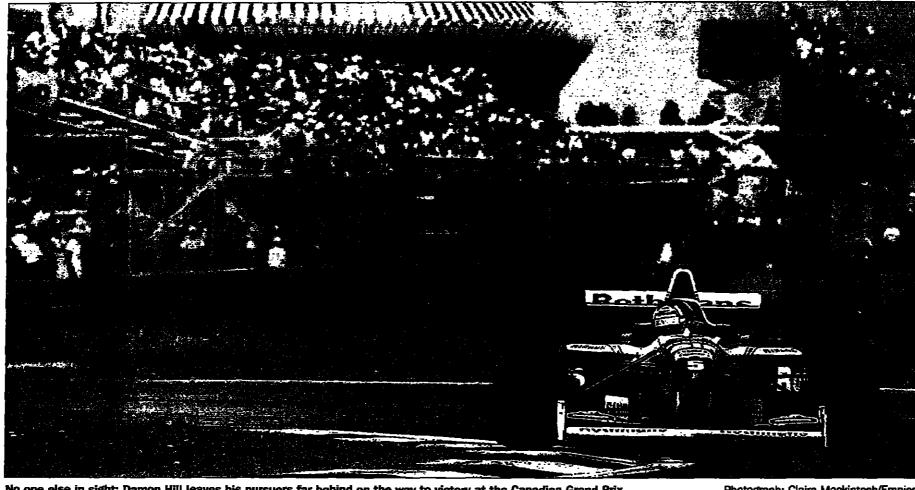
September 22

Japanese GP

October 13

Belglan GP

FORMULA DREAM TEAM



No one else in sight: Damon Hill leaves his pursuers far behind on the way to victory at the Canadian Grand Prix

Photograph: Claire Mackintosh/Empics

thing, for just as he was looking like

the quickest man around, and

he swiped the nose of his Jordan

off against the back end of

Pedro Lamy's revolving Minardi.

But sixth was some consolation,

The latest scores and results

hat a shame that Dream Team managers can't afford Damon Hill and a Williams chassis: the combination was absolutely dominant in Canada and driver and chassis lead their respective Dream Team tables by a country mile. But the weekend was another expensive one for Ferrari fans: a big fat 0 for Michael Schumacher and - even worse a nasty -5 for his team-mate Eddie Irvine.

Plaudits to Jacques Villeneuve for a fine drive on the circuit named after his late father. He is developing into the ideal number two to Hill: quick, tidy and reliable. Setting the fastest lap of the race was a nice gesture, and the five Dream Team points will come in handy too.

Hill swept most of the other maximum scores available, Top of the Top Six, Top of the Warmup Top Six, Quickest Pit-Stop and Pole Position bonus. Can you afford not to have this man in your team? Hill and Villeneuve aside, the

best performer was Martin

Brundle, who has been outperformed so far this season by his team-mate and fellow £10m man, Rubens Barrichello. The other £10m driver, Johnny Herbert, was another pricey driver improving on a slow start to the season - he's now gaining fast on his more expensive team-mate Heinz-Harald Frentzen, who seems to have been rattled by the Englishman's new-found pace. Points, too, for the McLaren pair, off the pace but reliable,

DRIVER OF THE DAY: MARTIN BRUNDLE raw speed. A little too appressive, if any-

A slightly controversial choice, this, as you can make a pretty strong case for Damon Hill to be Driver of the Day. But that would be boring, and he doesn't need the points, and anyway Martin Brundle is a jolly nice

Sunday was the East Anglian's 150th grand prix, and he celebrated with one of his most impressive drives for years, full of aggression and

and for the Monaco hero

making a habit of being fast in

the morning warm-up before the

race: they must brew particularly

strong coffee in the Ligier

had the beating of the McLarens, and Martin will feel confident now that he has what it takes to challenge his quick team-mate Barrichello. But the most heartening Olivier Panis, who seems to be

Dream Team points scorer is also the most unexpected: a representative of the Nightmare Team, Minardi: Giancarlo Fisichella, who managed, for once, to avoid driving into his

Overall Top 50 Dream Teams

team-mate, and kept his pretty but criminally slow car circulating all afternoon for eighth place and eight lovely Dream Team points. Steady on, Giancarlo, or you might make it as far as a grand total of zero ...

Grand Prix Shopping List

the life

POINTS SCORED

	22	9 5
	DRIVERS	2
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	1 M Schumacher 0	11
l	£23m	: ·
	2 J Alesi 15	97
ŀ	3.D.Hill 36	19
	£20m 4 G Berger 0	52
i	£18m	
	5 D Coulthard 19	68
	6 E Irvine -5	48
Ì	7 J Villeneuve 26	12
	£13m	
	8 M Hakkinen 14	76 43
	9 H H Frentzen -1	4.5
l	10 M Brundle 22	38
l	11 R Barrichello	51
	12 J Herbert 8	41
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,	13 M Salo	46
	14 P Lamy	20
	£4m	
	15 P Diniz • 16 U Katayama • 4	57
	17 J Verstappen -2	5 . 5
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	20 R Rosset -3	5
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Vernotti Racing

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- I Rice F1 Bryan's Bullets
- Jack Burchell Ford
- Inglis Team
- Sicol Racing
- 1 Team Muttley Nathan
- 1. Suths
- 1 Ollie's Team
- 1 Charlton Lamb
- 1 Dave's Drivers
- I Team Milne
- I Go Willit Go
- 1 Sandow 2
- Piston Broke 2 1 The 85 Bears
- 1 Girdlers Grid Stars
- 1 The Dukes of
- Hazzod 1 Mystic Murray's F1
- 1 Phoenix Racing

- 1 PJB Racetec
- Micro Power
- 1 Wilkys
- 1 Hilliams
- Orkney F1 GP Ruddocks Racers
- Ascending
- Mode Alfa
- 1 JTF 1
- Aphex Twin Carbs
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- 1 Palace GP
- 1 Brixton 1
- Leading Lights 1 Scott One
- 1 Inter-Netty Norton



41 Williams £18m 42 Ferrari £15m 43 McLaren £14m 44 Sauber 45 Jordan 46 Ligier 48 Arrows 49 Minardi

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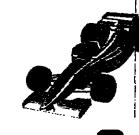
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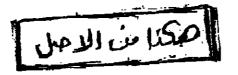
ENGINES 51 Renault £18m 53 Mercedes 55 Mugen 56 Ford V10 57 Yamaha 58 Hart :: 🕏 £3m 59 Ford Zetec V8

60 Ford ED V8

50 Forti



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The life for a budding Mr Christian

SO YOU WANT TO ... GO SAILING

By Stuart Alexander

boats appeals to ven the most convinced of couch potatoes. Sailing can be fun, avail able to all and enjoyed in myriad different ways. The spirit of Arthur Ransome and his Swallows and Amacons adventures lives on. Wherever there is a bit of water there will be a way of sailing on it, from small boats in creeks to bigger yachts offsbore, for budding racers or gentle cruisers. But whatever the location, the images of billowing sails and healthy hair streaming in bracing wind remain the same and the swoosh of a hull through water just as exciting.

Then there is the social side.

Yacht clubs have an indelible image of snobbery, gin and money. The price of the equipment would, at times, make Kenneth Clarke's eyes water. But from five-year-olds bobbing about in pram dinghies to grandmothers having a go at wind-surfing all conditions of mankind are attracted to the game.

There is a difference between wanting to go sailing and wanting to join a yacht chub, particularly the right vacht club. Many yacht owners do not belong to a club, many club members do not go sailing, or even motor boating, and perhaps the majority of people who go sailing do not own a boat. But there are many who hanker af-

ter belonging to the right club.

These tend to be the "royals" - the Royal Yacht Squadron in Cowes, the Royal Thames in London and royal clubs in every big yachting centre in Britain - where what matters is who you know. You cannot apply to join but must be proposed and seconded by existing members. Even so, they are not that expensive, with a top subscription of £500 a year, and often less than £250. They vary in the quality of their facilities. The London ones - such as the Royal Ocean Racing Club - are also small hotels, often with reciprocal facilities, allowing you to use other clubs. Most sailing and yacht clubs welcome new members.

They often also own boat parks where you can keep a dinghy, or have

Seedoff moorings for keelboats. In this most equipment-dominatat furt



No substitute for the basics: a member prepares to go out on the water at Bewi Valley Sailing Club, near Tunbridge Wells, in Kent

SIX CLUBS AND HOW TO BECOME MEMBERS

Photograph: Sarah Bancroft

ed of equipment sports, you need not splash out on a boat. But you do need decide what type of sailing you are after and then to attack the vast library of information that exists on how to enjoy it.

There are three stages to be passed. First, learn the basics of the game; second, settle on the level you aim to play on; and third, find a group with which to play it. There are choices between inland or coastal sailing, dinghy or keelboat, and whether you wish to sail as crew or part of a crew. Your decision may be governed by where you live, how far you want to travel, what is available and what you want to spend. You will need to budget for the specialist clothes for when it is cold, wet and miserable. Some schools, especially for windsurfing, provide wetsuits or other gear, but you will need your own, particularly footwear

Royal Yachting Association, the sport's national governing body. They have booklets on every aspect of taking to the water, they structure the courses and examinations, and supervise the approval of

If you are apprehensive about learning in north European weather conditions, there are also RYAapproved schools in the Mediterranean and the West Indies. All aspects of being a Captain Queeg on the helm or a Mr Christian in the crew can be packed into two weeks with a pink slip at the end.

There is no substitute for learning properly all the basics. Ideally this would be in a dinghy. And talk of certificates of competence is important because, although the RYA fights hard for its principle of education rather than regulation, other

The great engine of advice is the European countries already require a licence. At the moment in Britain, anyone can take to the water in any boat, at any age, without licence or insurance, but it is only a matter of time before the legislators mine such a rich vein.

> Once you have learnt to out sails up and down, adjust them in and out, sail upwind and down, leave a mooring and regain it, there are dozens of types of dinghy to choose from, too many in truth. Pick one, talk to the class association and find a convenient club.

> Those looking for crewing jobs might also put cards on club notice boards. But you would do better to turn up, ask for the local vachtie pub. or ask your school instructor if he knows of anyone looking for crew. But with dinghies starting at £300 secondhand, you could always buy a

Those vital dos and don'ts

You enter a minefield of jargon, etiquette, expertise and technology when ou first take up sailing. But:

Do not become depressed at the

number of times you hear "No. not like that, we don't do it like that." The basic don't is do not by to give the imsion you know more than you do: Be honest about your search for information and experience but no more than quietty enthusiastic about volunteering to do every job in sight. Do, if necessary, combine learning to swim or taking a couple of dips to convince ourself you can still do it.

Make sure that you have a blazer/ efer jacket (tweeds are taboo unfill you are an established eccentric) but

Assessed some: Family £132; single £82.50; reductions for under 28; cadets £24.75

er storage £40-£120; dingly £20 for summer

Hosts major championships, including lest year's first world team sating event, full RYA training programme and social events Telephones 0151-625 5579

that it looks well worn, with no brass but tons, and that the new deck shoes have been through the washing machine: 5 Do not pole up wearing America's Cup or Whitbread Race crew clothes bought at Beautieu Boat Jumble.

6 Do make sure that if you throw up, you do so to leeward (best start with the jargon now), that is downwind. Under no circumstances watch if the skipper or his wife are doing the same. Try and look union of the senior clubs, as they Try and look under 30 if applying have now realised the average age of their members is climbing alarmingly.

Screate an opportunity to interview any prospective skipper and inspect

his yacht. If he is that desperate for a

sabs: Family £85; single £75;

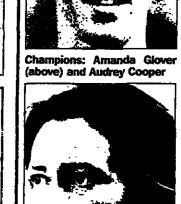
Mooring fees: Keelboats £40 a year, dinghies £40 a year General: No accommodation. Bar open warmertay. Facial. Saturday and Sunday.

Wednesday, Finday, Saturday and Su Grundig Regatte in August

ne: 01436 672778

beginner, there has to be a reason.

Hackney council leisure services is a recreation officer. Cooper



carns her living as publicity manager for Racal, the company that

Their nine-to-five occupations have not dented their faith in the Olympic dream, "People warn us not to be overawed, to enjoy the experience," Cooper says, "But you are never satisfied with just

The pair are ranked 15th in the world, but of those going to Atlanta, they will rank 12th. Glover is ontimistic about their chances. She says: "We should be OK. Our results so far aren t bad and we're looking for a topeight position. But it's always there, in the back of our minds.

Glover grew up by the seaside in Weymouth, Dorset, but became interested in the sport only five years ago when she went to a beach volleyball tournament. "I went for a bit of fun, got hooked, and it started from there." She adds that although it is an attractive sport for spectators, the physical demands are rigorous. When people come to

Cooper agrees, "Because there

The pair have been surprised by the attention they have been receiving this year. Their team manager, Marzena Bogdanowicz, has been inundated with requests for interviews. "It's been so heetic recently, none of us have had a chance to stop and think about it."

ments are just starting to sink in. 'It's really exciting, but it's only in the last few months that it's his us - we're going to the Olympics."

From Paul Kay

Regarding Richard Edmondson's comments ("The Final Word", Independent, 17 June) about England's first goal against Scotland. The move that led to the goal began with Southgate heading the ball back to Seaman who then threw it out to Neville. There then followed a period of "poncing about" in midfield involving six players and seven passes before Redknapp fed McManaman who in turn passed to Neville who crossed to Shearer. sed to

All England's players, with the exception of Gascoigne, Adams and Sheringham, were involved. It showed that England can compete with the route-one approach of the sophisticated Dutch, i.e. Bergkamp's goal against Switzerland. Yours sincerely.

PAUL KAY Christchurch, Dorset

From Frank Desmond

Now that Euro 96 is well under way it is a better time than most to air my pet whinge about TV football commentaries: the infuriating habit of the "back-up" commentator of making his point regardless of any development in the play.

So he's talking about the recent substitution and meanwhile that have any chance of matching the pass back to the goalkeeper has standards set by New Zealand, Ausbeen intercepted. However, that's no reason to let the other bloke describe what's going on. The polite word for that is ego-tripping and if you had a quid for every time it is going to happen during the tournament then you would not need to buy lottery tickets. Yours sincerely. FRANK DESMOND London, W6

From Michael Slowe

Your photograph of the front benches of the Lord's Pavilion, published on page 8 of your 14 June issue, con-

tains one horrifying image. No, not the lady sitting resplendent watching the England and shortened for reasons of space.

SPORTS LETTERS

New Zealand women's team playing but the gentleman behind correctly dressed in straw hat and necktie and, horror of horrors, drinking a pint of beer. Do not the regulations of the MCC forbid taking food and beverages out of the bars in the pavilion on to the out-Yours faithfully.

MICHAEL SLOWE

From John Cameron

So, the bosses of English rugby have once again managed to shoot rugby in the foot. Their amazingly selfish stance towards the TV negotiations shows how little regard they have not only for the wider public by denying live rights to terrestrial tele-vision, but also towards the game itself, and demonstrates how far they have been stampeded by the panic of professionalism. It would seem obvious to all but

the most stupid that if northern hemisphere rugby is to flourish, and tralia and South Africa, all the home nations need the resources to develop and produce worthwhile competition for each other. The inadvisability of "one-off" matches in the southern hemisphere has already been demonstrated by the England soccer squad's Far East débacle. Yours faithfully,

JOHN CAMERON St Albans, Hertfordshire

Letters should be marked "For publication" and contain daytime and evening phone numbers. They should be sent to Sports Editor. The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL. They may be

PICK OF THE WEEK

THIS WEEK/Racing

POOTBALL: Today: European Classiplonablest Group C: Baly v Germany (at Old Tradical) (7:30); Russia v Casch Republic (at Ardield) (7:30). Group D: Cootsia v Portugal (at the Oly Ground) (4:30). Group D: Cootsia v Portugal (at the Oly Ground) (4:30). Turkey v Denmark. (at Hillsborrugh) (4:30). Group v Denmark (at Hillsborrugh) (4:30). CRECKET: Today: Britannia Assurance Country Championable (three days): Hampshira v Northamptorisine (Balanganet, Somassi v Worcestersine (Balanda v India (Lords). Britannia Assurance Championable; Debyshira v Middesex (Deby); Lusham v Surry (Studiest); Northamptorisine v Ciculostorishia (Fren Bridge); Sussex v Garroggan (Hoss); Warwickshire v Ment (ctil). Sussex v Garroggan (Hoss); Warwickshire v Ment (ctil).

CYCLENG: Tomonows isle of Man international week.
SPEEDWAY: Today: Premier League (7.30pm unless
street): Long Eaton v Redding, Four Team Championality
quantifying round, 4th larg. Hull v Mittilesthrough v Scottash Monartos v Steffeitic Poole v Datori v Sandon v
Bester. Sin leg: Cadley Hashi & Stole v Belle War Widsenterrepton v Country (7.45) (at Stole). Thursday: Pomeler League; Ipswich v Scotlish Monarcha; London v
Poole. Four Team Championathip qualifying round, 3ch
leg: Shelfield v Middlesthrough v Half v Braddind (7.45).
Friday: Premier League: Bale Vie v Datorit Peterborough
v Hall. Caniforance League: Migan v Sir Helens (7.45).
RNGBY LEAGUE (7.30 unitees stated): Priday:
Stones Super League: Wigan v Si Helens (7.20).
BOMMLS: Priday: Worner's Brush Championships and

Internationate (to 24th June) [Learnington Spa].

MCING (Flat mandings in capitalist: Today: ROYAL, ASCOT: (BEC) Members attence booking only: Grandssend
& Pacacock 228: Sher Ring £6; Heast £1. (2.30). NOTRNBHMA: saly Clin £12 (Luhross, £6; 21 yeam, £8); Tattersals: £6; Sher Ring & Paddock £4. (6.30). RIPONtClub £12; Patersals: £6; Sher Ring &! Course £2 (seccompared under-16s free all enclosures). (2.15).

Worcaster: (sky) Members £12.50; Tattessels: £9.50;
Course £5 (GAPs £2.50). (6.45). Thursday: ROYAL ASCOT (BEC) as Visionessels. (2.30). RIPON: End as Visionessels.

(6.47). SOUTHWELL: (WI) Clan £12; Tattersals: £6

GAP reembers of course's Deamand Club £4, accompanied under-16s feet. (2.15). Streatfort tools £16 sels. toy. (1.5), accomps blamond Club £4, accomps to be found to £4, accomps to the first toy club £1.2 (1.5), Straitford: toyl Club £1.2 Texas als £8; Course £4, £6.45), Priday, ROYAL ASCOT ISBBSSBS 52; COLUDE 54, (6.45). Pripay: ROYAL ASCOTI: (BBC) as Winderstay, J. 200. AVE Cub 512; Sanchistoria 57 (DAPs half-price), (2.15). 6000040000; Richmond Enclosure 516, Gaston Endosure 510, Robic Endosure 54: toper-656; 53, Accompanied under-17; five of enclosure 54: toper-656; 53, Accompanied under-17; five of enclosure 55, Gastoniand & Paddock 510 (15 to 25-year-olds 510); Caratistand & Paddock 510 (15 to 25-year-olds 510); Furnistand & Paddock 510 (15 to 25-year-olds 510); Furnistand & Paddock 510 (15 to 26-year-olds 510); Furnistand & Paddock 510 (16 to 26-year-olds 510); Furnistand & Paddock 510 (16 to 26-year-olds 510); Cause 52-50 (DAPs 51.25). (2.25).

This weekend Saturday

RUGSY UNDON: Second Test: Australia y Wales (Sec ray). Second Test: New Zealand y Scotland (Auchtend) Castleford (6.0); Paris v Warfington (7.0), EQUESTRIAMISPIK, Meton Keynes Horse Trials: Dres-sage (12.0); Show jumping (3.30); Crose-country (4.0). Mitton Keynes, Bestrian; certibe, Hanslope, Mitton Keynes, Busics, For hutter information call (19.08 511328. Hanslope is just west of the ML, midwey between junction 14 and 15. Leaving junction 14 in low signs for Stoney Stration (AB) and join ASOS, Turn right for Castleforpe and Hanslope. Taste ASOS off junction 15 through Yardley Gobion, Turn left to Castleforpe and Hensiope and lollow signposted routs. ATHLETICS: Guardian Insurance Men's Gold and Women's Jubilee Cup, second round: Woodborn Road

JUST THE TICKET: a weekly guide to what's on where for the spectator

canal sales torny £150; and £120; \$15.25 \$15. councy too votes £105; con a several £10. Out relies a chir book £10 to the year, but \$10 to fee year. \$20 to \$10 to \$1

Royal Ascot scot Racecourse, Berkshire

The most famous and unique Flat race meeting in the world commenced yes-terday and is comfortably the most valuable race meeting in Europe, surpassing the £2m prize-money mark for the first time this year. Royal Ascot is also Britain's most popular race meeting with attendances predicted to exceed 200,000 over four days.

Certain other meetings may boast a classic but, with as many as 15 pattem races, none comes as close to matching the overall class of racing found over four days at Royal Ascot. The Thursday may attract the biggest crowds (featuring the Gold Cup) but, with a royal procession taking place every day, all days are essen-tially the same. Despite the enduring popularity of this event, it is still ble to gain entry for as little as £6 in the Silver Ring, or £28 per day for Grandstand badges.

How to get times: The course is near unction of AGCS and AGCD. Access from MG Curic 31 and MG Curic 4. Helicopies harding facility or course of sentions 15m; Rail way station (service from London, Waterbook adjoins course.

bers 18-25 years, half phoets £1.6 (Junior Members 18-25 years, half phoet); Grandstand & Paddock £1.0; Selver Ring £5. Heath: £1. (2.0). AVR: as Friday, £2.15). LINGRIEL Dr. (Se), tur/RAM) Members £1.3, Tertexanis £1.6 osy, 2.1.5), Linguise (39), but/www) memoers 21.3, Tetimenis (9); Silver Ring (5. (6.15); REDCAR: as Finday, (1.50), WOLVERHAMPTON: (AW, sky) Club £15; Tatilersalis £6 (DAP members of Diamono Club £4); Wewing Restaurant £25.90 including errance and meal. (7.0). Southwell as Thursday, (1.55). SPEEDWAY: Premier: Bradford v Cradley Heeth & Stoke; Covertry v Middlesbrough; Swindon v Reading.

Sunday

European Championship Quarter-finata: Runner-up Group D v Winner Group C (3.00) (at Old Trafford): Winner Group D v Runner-up Group C (3.30) (at Wise Park), CRICCET: AXA Equity & Law League : Derbyshire v Middlesex (Derby); Durham v Surrey (Stockon); Hampshire v Northampionshire (Assingsiole): Northamphamera v Winnescarushire (Bath); Susters v Gamorgan (Fuel; Warwicker's v Kem (Edglesston); Yorkshire v Leicesstership (Bradford).

State V Certaissaying (practicity).

REVISY LEMBLE: Super Leadord V Stellield (6.0); Heidrax V Oldram (6.0); Werlangton v London (3.0). First Division: Battley V Designuy (5.30); Featherstone V Kolle-Beld (6.0); Kegrisey Rochitate (3.30); Weines V Sallod (3.0).

ATHLETICS: Guardian Insurance Men's Gold and Women's Jubilee Cup, second round (matches 12 noon start unless stated): Mayestrook Fart, (Barting); John Mile Stadium (Paracinett: Whitchurch Sallo).

PICK OF THE WEEKEND

SAT and SUN/Motorsport MCN British Superbikes Championship Brands Hatch

unded: 1901

film: Nat: None:

Mombers; 1,252

Brands Hatch plays host to the fifth round of the MCN British Superbike in Championship this weekend with a packed programme of the best mo-torcycle sport in Britain. Hot favourites are the Cadbury's Yamaha team of Nail Mackenzie and Jamie Whittam, who respectively in the championship. The two Superbike races will be supported by a packed programme of top

quality racing including the British 125 and 250 Supercup, the Mobil 1 Tn-umph Speed Triple Challenge and the British Thunderbike Supercup. In addition, the Motorcycle City Superteen Challenge offers competitors, aged be-tween 15 and 20, the chance to follow in the footsteps of previous competitors who have gone on to earn Grand Pnx rides.

How to get there: Bronds Hotch is stuated on the A2O London to Madistore men note; 30 miles South East of London and can easily be accessed from junction 3, Seartley, of the MASS, and is linked set the A2O and MASS of processes; For their mammation receptions 01 (1-928 5100). Practicle is on Saturday at 9am. Adult tuckets on £6 and children are free. Racing is on Sunday at 11.45am. Adult tuckets for Sunday are £12 and children £1. Grandstand seating is £3 while access to the paddock and parking are free. For further information call Brands Hatch on 01327-857 271.

Statum (Cannock); Mecnatys Statum (Detty); Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre (Cadroth); Eveter Areno (Exeter); Crownport Sports Park (Caspon); Stochwood Park (Luton); Sunnonbury Arena (Astalla Keynes). Several of Britain's Dlympic team are expected to be in action for their clubs this week, end. A total of 1.44 teams complete in the 24 contests at 12 different venues. The first two in each metch qualify for the semi-fields at Crawley, Hendon, Livenpool and Stoke on 28 July. Call O181-870 1196.

POLO: Family Polo Day (12noon) (Petersham Road, Richmond): A day of fun at Ham Polo Cub Noso, Normono): A day of an at Ham Polo Cub-in aid of the chanty React (Research, Educa-tion and Aid for Chaidren with Potentially Terminal Ilhees). Attractions include celebrity matches, e wide venety of food and drink in addition to "endless" entertainment for chaidren. Singers Kim Wilde and Sam Fox, and comedian Lty Sauge are just some of the stars attending. Admission £10, children under 10 and paring free. Call 0181, 940 2575 for information and tickets. EQUESTRIANISM: Mitton Keynes Horse Trials: Dressage (8.30am, Grade A at 10.0); Showurreing (10.0, G.A.2.0); Cross country (10.30, G.A.3.0).

CYCLING: British Open Road Race Championship (-foer-governin), Men's National 50-mile Time Time (-Newcassie). SPEEDWAY: Centerence League: Linkthgow's Aro-na Essex (2.30); Middenhall v Buston (3.30); Sineffeld v Reading (3.0); Sittingbourne v Eastbourne (2.0).

Members: 400

reductions for inter Joining fee: No.

Whiting list: None

TENNES. Monday: Wenthledon Champlonships to 7th July: All England Tennes Club, South-fields! Sports Fars will have yot another spon-fields! Sports Fars will have yot another spon-fields! Sports fars will have yot another spon-fields for the sample of the

Comunition telephone 0181-946 2244.

CRICKET: Truesday: NatiWest Trophy First Round: Cambridgeshie v Kom (Marchi; Comwall v Warbridgeshie v Kom (Marchi; Comwall v Warwclishie (St Austelli); Cumberland v Waddeses, Carisler; Durham v Souland (Chesteries Street); Esses v Devon (Chelmsfort); Glampran v Wortserstrate (Gardiff); Hampshire v Norloll, iSourampton); Incland v Susses (Belliast, North of Petars CO); Leocateraine v Berishme (Leocateries); Northamourismore v Chester (Harthampon); Ostoriansenson v Tockher (Harthampon); Ostoriansen v Nottingamphore (Headingles).

RACINE: Monday: MISSELBURGET Cap (11): Tat

Shire v Nottingsambrine (Headingles).

RACING: Monday: MILSSELBURGH: Quo £11: Tat recasts 56: QDP; and interrologic £3: (First race 2:30). NOTTINGHAM: Cub £12: (Linnors, 16:21: etcs). £59: Tatterside £8: Solver Ring & Paddock £4: (2:15). WAR-WICK: 106y. QLb £12: 116: to 24-vect-olds £69: Tatterside £6: Course £5. (6:15). WINDSOR. (16y) Cub £12: (astersale: £8: Solver Ring £4: (6:30). Tomoday: Lifter Lib: cubr £13: Northers £13: Intersale: £9. Solver Ring £5: 2:30: VARMOUTH: Cub £12: Tatterside £7: Solver Ring £6: 2:30: VARMOUTH: Cub £12: Tatterside £7: 25:50. Furnal and course enclosure £4:50: (2:15).

Plan ahead

With Damon Hill looking increasingly likely to become the first British F1 Champion, since Nigel Mansell in 1992, tickets for next month's event will again be at a premium. In addition to defending champion Michael Schumacher, Scotland's David Coulthard will lead a pack of British drivers, all capable of winning a place on the win-ner's rostrum. There will be few F1 cycums het's rostrom, intere en de leer's a cause so fiercely contested. While there are few ockets remaining for raceday, it is still possible to secure tick-ets for the two preceding qualifying days

Silverstore Circuit Ltd. Towesster, Northampton-shre, MAT2 8TM. On the M1, from the North leave at junction 19 and from the spath at junction 13. From the M40, leave at junction 10 from both the Northern or Southern rouges. From the West or South-less thise the A34 and A321, From the East Lave the A45, A43 or A508.

East (ang the July, Au3 or ASOS.

Friday 12th July: At road walkabout for hold-ers of reserved centre basses 7.30am-8.30am.
Practice starts at 11am. Seturday 13th July: Butes open at 5am; British Grand Prit starts at 2pm. Telephone 01327 857273 for ticket informa-tion 01327 857271 for general information.

Details of forthcoming events with information on tickets and venues should be sent to: The Sports Desk. The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, Fax: 0171 293 2894.

Compiled by Alister Morgan

Volleyball pair come in from the cold

ATLANTA COUNTDOWN

No 2 **AMANDA GLOYER** and AUDREY COOPER

Beach volleyball is making its debut as a inedal sport at the Atlanta Olympics and Britain will be represented by the pairing of Amanda Glover, 25, and Audrey Cooper, 31. It will be the first time a

British volleyball team, either indoor or beach, has qualified for the Olympics. The duo guaranteed their place in March. They are the present English champi-ons, and rank fourth in Europe During the past year they have ompeted in the World Beach

Championships in Brazil, Australia, Puerto Rico, Indonesia and Glover and Cooper, however, have not had the exotic training locations of their opponents Not for them the beaches of Bondi, Califorma or Hawaii - the

British participants practise next

to the pier on Bournemouth beach. During the week they train at the Ruislip Lido, Middlesex, and head south each weekend to hit the sand, come rain or stune. "We have to get out there, even it we are wearing goggles for rain rather than sunglasses," Glover

By day, Glover works for



sponsors the team.

getting there. We want to do

We'd like a medal."

watch, they realise it's not as easy as they'd thought."

are only two of you on court, you get through a great deal of work." But the work has been worth it. "This is a dream come true. Two and a half years ago it was an ambition, an idea. But now it's a reality."

For Glover, too, their achieve-

Bijou D'Inde has the final word

RICHARD EDMONDSON reports from Royal Ascot

For those who had been told a French horse would collect the St James's Palace Stakes yesterday the morning results section must have a reassuring look. Bijon D'Inde was the winner. The colt's connections are not exactly Gallic, however, as he is owned and trained by Scotsmen and when he breathes in after exercise each morning it is great gulps of quest is to establish himself as North Yorkshire air which are a trainer of global capacity.

taken into the bellows. This was the Group One race that was billed as the showdown between the Guineas winners. Mark Of Esteem had won the Newmarket version and was running for the home side (despite carrying no British connection), while Ashkalani and Spinning World had cap-tured the French and Irish equivalents for Chantilly and were thought to have it between them. Bijou D'Inde had lost in two of the Guineas and was considered little more than a member of the cast.

This lowly place in the production looked reasonable enough as the gawky chestnut set off in front, a figure to be shot at. As the Ascot bell tolled it seemed to signal his chances. Ashkalani sweeping by with ease. But then Bijou D'Inde jumped outside his bit part. Jason Weaver galvanised his mount to a serious reply up the rails and when the post arrived he was a head back in front.

Mark Johnston, the colt's trainer, supplied a military metaphor for all this, suggesting, in Corporal Jones style, that the French do not like it up them. It was not difficult to imagine the Middleham trainer as a nationalist as he disported himself in a waistcoat and tie of his family tartan.

Johnston admitted that when Bijou D'Inde first arrived at when I would have given him back if I could," he said. "But the first day he stepped on to the

This was the first time this year the terrain had been in Bijou D'Inde's favour. At Newmarket the dip had the same effect on him as the frozen take on new-born Bambi, while the Curragh was too soft. Now the agenda includes the Eclipse Stakes and, later on, the Breeders' Cup Mile as Johnston's

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Blomberg (Royal Ascot 4.20) NB: Naked Welcome (Royal Ascot 5.30)

The opening mile race, the Queen Anne Stakes, provided an even more impressive winner in the shape of Charnwood Forest, who succeeded despite taking the course of a warped arrow up the straight. "He just hung a bit with me today and it took me a while to get him organised." Michael Kinane, the winning rider, reported. "But I did think he was a good thing."

The winner has a busy schedule ahead including the Sussex Stakes, Prix Jacques le Marois. Queen Elizabeth II Stakes and, possibly, the Breeders' Cup Mile. By winter he may have a

The Prince Of Wales's Stakes maintained the staggering posthumous success of the Moller brothers, who bequeathed funds to keep their chocolate and brown colours alive. Pentire carries the flag and yesterday First Island proved he is no Blackpool sands performer either. He broke the track record.

The winner was partnered by Michael Hills, who switched into Cain and Abel mode when he passed his twin brother, Richard, in the straight, flicking his brother's mount, Montjoy, Kingsley House he was tempt-ed to put him straight back in the across the snout with his whip crate and thump in some nails. as he surged through to success.



Bijou D'inde (left) rallies to repel the favourite, Ashkalani (sheepskin noseband), in yesterday's St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot

Stone Ridge heading straight for success

GREG WOOD

Last year's Royal Hunt Cup provided one of those rare (to be honest, almost unique) occasions when a big handicap unfolded entirely as predicted, as Chickawicka cut out the running from stall 31 to give the far side a crucial advantage, and set the race up for Realities.

Bitter experience tells us that our chance of a repeat performance today is slightly smaller than that of the Princess of Wales arriving in the Queen's carriage. None the less, it seems reasonable to adopt the same initial approach to the Hunt Cup, the biggest betting race of the week, and attempt to find the early pace which always favours one side or the other.

This year, it is a case of the same horse, but the other side. Once again, Chickawicka seems sure to make the running, but

ROYAL ASCOT

there seems no reason to look beyond stall 15 for the winner. It is also worth recording that Nick Cheyne, Ascot's clerk of the course, commented yesterday that despite the new fullcover watering system, he expects the stands' side to be slightly favoured" as the meet-

ing progresses.
This immediately excludes

ASCOT 2.30: RAMOOZ, who showed a devastating turn of foot to come from last to first to land a Stakes race at Epsom on Derby day, might have too much speed for My Branch, who has run respectable races in the Newmarket and Irish 1,000 Guineas and now drops back in trip.

3.05: MORE SILVER clocked a fairly smart time when winning by five lengths at Newbury on her de-

ite, has an outstanding chance from stall three, but at such relatively short odds it is a serious concern that his stamina may not stretch to a fast-run straight mile on one of Britain's most demanding tracks. He is worth a

chance on form are discarded.

Yeast, the ante-post favour-

the short-list is very short.

small saving bet on the off-

look the dangers.

The Lincoln winner is back on a straight track for the first time since Doncaster, and while his success there came on very soft ground, he also has plenty of form on a fast surface. From stall nine and with Pat Eddery holding the reins, he has an outstanding chance, and the 25-1 available with Coral and William Hill this morning will

3.45; SHAKE THE YOKE, who had

all kinds of trouble in running and

was a most unlucky loser when fin-

ishing three-quarters of a length sec-

ond to Ta Rib in the Poule d'Essai

des Pouliches (French 1,000

Guineas) at Longchamp, had pre-viously stormed home by 10 lengths

in the Prix de la Grotte over the

same course and distance. Proven on

today's lightning fast ground, she will be hard to beat. Last Second is an

interesting outsider.

undercurrent to today's Group One event, the Coronation Stakes, as Ed Dunlop's To Rib attempts to confirm Poule d'Essai des Pouliches (French 1.000 Guineas) form with Shake The Yoke, trained by Elie Lellouche. Shake The Yoke was beaten by three-quarters of a length at Longchamp, but received one

4.20: YEAST, not disgraced in going down by a short-head to Alluma in a decent Limited Stakes at Lingfield, had previously shown he has what it takes to land a big handicap when taking the Victoria Cup over seven furlangs here in April. Dangers include Tertiam, runner up to Ela-Aristokrati in a competitive handicap at Epsom on Derby day and the progressive Blomberg win-ner of the Diomed Stakes at Epson

on Oaks day.

of the poorest rides that will be

is drawn seven, and with another probable front-runner, Ger's Blomberg and New Century, Royale, also on the stands side, and when those with no obvious there reason to look the stands of the stands (2.30) has a new partner in Olivier Peslier, whose superb ride

on Glory Of Dancer in the Derby was surely one of the finest Epsom debuts we have seen. He did not receive the credit he deserved from commentators more used to criticising French jockeys, but that oversight can be corrected today. Almushtarak (2.30) is an in-

22.00 1002

Ec.

E 2 23 Committee of the second

teresting outsider for the Jersey Stakes. He was beaten by Ramooz at Epsom last time, but Gay Kelleway, his trainer, points out that "there was no pace that day, and when he gets a good pace he will be a very. very good horse.

More Silver (3.05) and Sherpas (4.55) are other likely winners though not at tempting odds. Save the cash for Remandi Sun (next best 5.30), another who will enjoy the fierce pace.

THE ROYAL HUNT CUP - 10-YEAR-TALE 1986 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 Chapter in busings of 9 2 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 12 10 14 5 4 30 11 19 33 30 officer loss to \$1 states Payonites -£4.00. Second Payonites +£7.50 ge of wheners placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd is provious race: 40% pat priced winner: Ponteruovo 50-1 (1990) ing trainers: J Durdon (2) - Patriarch (1989) & Eurolink The Lad (1991) Top Judiay: J Retti (2) - Petratch (1986) & Eurolink The Led (1991)

Moments of Fortune.

40/1 says

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3(0)/EII	Asco			
ROYAL	HUNT CUP			
	scot, 4,20pm, Live on BBC.			
9/1 Yeast	25/1 Moving Arrow			
12/1 Silvian Bliss	33/1 Cadeaux Tryst			
14/1 Akii	33/1 Czarna			
14/1 Behaviour	33/1 Desert Green			
14/1 Blomberg	33/1 Green Green Desert			
14/1 Kayvee	33/1 Gymcrak Premiere			
14/1 Tertium	33/1 Pengamon			
16/1 Beauchamp Jazz	33/1 Star Talent			
16/1 New Century	40/i Moments of Fort.			
16/1 Tarawa	40/1 Star Manager			
18/1 Serious	40/1 Wild Rice			
20/1 Amrak Ajeeb	40/ 1 Zyga			
28/1 Crumpton Hill	50/1 Blaze of song			
20/1 Donna Viola	50/1 Mo-Addab			
20/1 Stone Ridge	66/1 Chickawicka			
25/1 Ger's Royale .	100/1 Cedez Le Passage			
	e odds a place 1,2,3,4.			
These prices may have changed state to	S Normager was printed. For the very letted as Talebeat 1954/7 (Ch4).			
POM THE LATEST EURO "56 PRICES, PAGE TELETEKT GOT CHA OR CALL INTO ANY LADBROKES SHOP.				
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Ladbrokes

2.30 Ramooz 3.45 Shake The Yoke (nb) 5.30 SON OF SHARP SHOT (nap) GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: Straight course Course is near junction of AS29 and AS30. Access from M3 (Junc 3) and M4 (Junc 6). effeopter-landing facility at course (Heathrow 15m), Rathway station (service from Lon-on, Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMESSION: Members advance booking only; Grand-sand & Paddock S23; Silver Ring 56. CAE PARE: No's 1, 2 & 3 S.4, remainder free. SIS ■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH EUNNERS: J Dustlop – 24 winners from 117 runners gives a success ratio of 20.5% and a profit to a \$1 level stake of \$41.85; R Hangon – 18 winners, 206 runners, 9.26%, -\$45.49; J Gosden – 17 winners, 117 runners, 14.5%, -\$47.10; M Stoute – 18 winners, 147 runners, 10.9%, -\$42.02. **M** LEADING JOCKEYS: Pet Eddery - 32 winners, 210 rides, 15.2%, +\$10.90; W Garson - 30 winners, 306 rides, 14.4%, -\$37.35; M Roberts - 33 winners, 188 rides, 12.2%, -\$7.96; J Beid - 20 winners, 183 rides, 10.9%, -\$26.63. IJNKERED FIRST TIME: Requir Blow (2.30, visored); Red Garter (3.05); Wild Rice

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: THE LADE (1.00) will be consisted in Flamy, Major Change (6.30) win at Sandown on Priday.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: (within Britain): Tertium (4.20) has been sent 256 miles by M Wane from Melsonby, North Torixhire; Lallans (4.56) sent 243 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, North Yorkshire; Moving Arrow (4.20) sent 242 miles by Miss S Hall from 2.30 JERSEY STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 3) £50,000 BECS added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £34,400 2.330 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £34,400

1 41-31 ALLROYAL (33) (f) Greenby Stables Ltd H Cgcl 8 13. W Ryan 10
2 6010-13 ALMISHTARIAK (11) (f) (A Aradi Mess Gay Kelburay 8 10. W J) O'Consor 12
3 50 SENERAL ARADEMY (29) (Greens) Home Absenzing SR1 P Nelburay 8 30. K Palion 36
4 202 HSLSINGOR (18) (F E Sungster) T Stock (f) 8 10. M Roberts 17
5 4515-41, KMR OF THE EMST (22) (Or K Shranz) M Stone 8 10. M Roberts 17
6 21-0 LEONEME (MG) 65R Percs Fand Salvary P Cole 8 10. M I Roberts 17
7 12-632 LUCKNAM PRENCE (USA) (22) (BF) (Luckyon Stud D Loder 8 10. R Roberts 18
8 2-310 MESSECA HOUSE (24) (9) (F) E Sengester P Chapter House 8 10. R Roberts 19
11 12-431 MY BRANKEH (25) (Main Salvar) F Chapter House 10 I J Baid 8
9 1123-43 MY BRANKEH (25) (Main Salvar) B Hanbury 8 10. M Hills 11
10 114-131 RAMOOZ (USA) (21) (D) (Hair Salvar) B Hanbury 8 10. M Hills 11
11 12 REQUIN RELL (28) (D) (Denal Wilderstein A O'Bhren 10 8 10. C Roche 1 V
12 124-0 RUSSIAN REVIEW, USA) (24) (Sochpirm') Salved for Salvar B 10. O Pealter 7
13 1521-44 VAMBER (USA) (25) (B Fantish A Michaput) H Torroon Jone 8 10. O Pealter 7
13 1521-44 VAMBER (USA) (25) (B Fantish A Michaput) H Torroon Jone 8 10. O Pealter 1
15 123-01 PLEASE SUZANNE (44) (D) (P C I Duthy) J Toler 8 7 Salvardes 14
15 123-01 PLEASE SUZANNE (44) (D) (P C I Duthy) J Toler 8 7 Salvardes 14
15 123-01 PLEASE SUZANNE (45) (B) (B House 1) R Hommon 8 7 C Assumence 15
17 265-431 SHEFFIELD (USA) (15) (B) (House 1) R Hommon 8 7 T Education Review, 14-1 (Brunds Man, Sheffield, 16-1 Please Suzanne 20-1 others
1870-1886 Sugaryer 3 8 10 R Hughes 5-1 (R Hammon) 16 ton
FORM GUIDE

4,30, vrojesij. VINNEES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Tiger Luke (4.55) won at Goodwood on Priday;

FORM GUIDE

A most genuine and consistent filty, MY BRANCH is the one to beat here, having run a three-length fourth behind Bosra Sham in the 1,000 Guiness and third to Madya in the Insh equivalent. Bany Hill's filty, who scored three times and was placed in her five other stams at two, should not be inconvenienced by dropping back in distance and the in-form Micheel Hills again takes the mount. Ramance got home by a head and three parts of a length from subsequent Derby traitano hero Bahaman Kingin and Al-Royal in the Thrak Classic This (Jiml in April and they meet on identical terms. Ramooc tailed to last frome when third behind Mich's Love and Bahamana Kingin at Newmentet (1/m 20 next time, out came good again when a length and a quarter and a nack too good for Warning Time and Almoustianak over today's timp at Esporm and should be in at the finish. All-Royal, who represents Herry Codi — successful with Andangless in this three years aga — went on to win a Lasted event by eight lengths at Newmarket last month and he also looks dangerous. Ilm Bolgar's Sheffield is regarded as the pick of the Intel-trained quarter. She cashe home by more then two lengths from Requine Bleu (visioned lists time today) at News after finishing a length that to that they on the same course last month and is only 20 worse in than less time. King Of The East showed he was on the upgrade when beging Red Mymph two and a half lengths at Lenester and could pose a threat if as effective over this stiff event. He represents Michael Stouts, who won this with the crack miler Zitzal in 1989. Richard Hennon, who landed last year's race with Sengayev, is represented by the lightly raced Pleases Suzzatae, who, despite drifting in the betting, best Baize a length and a quarter at Kempton last month. That was over its but she sits the extra furiong.

3.05 QUEEN MARY STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 3) £40,000 2YO filles 5f Penalty Value £25,960

8 1 LYCRITY (15) (Saled Mareng) C Briton 8 8 0 Pedilor 8 9 3314 MARCH SDAR (22) (6 M Cotey) 1 Toter 8 8 0 Pedilor 8 W Carron 11 10 1 MORE SHUBER (USA) (23) (0) (Secret Maleourn A Messourn) M Soute 8 8 1 Pedilor 9 11 1 MORE SHUBER (USA) (23) (0) Shoreton C James P Cote 8 8 1 M Hills 14 12 2255 RED GARTER (23) (Alexander MacCillerg) K McLudie 8 8 1 M Hills 14 13 MANUELES WICE) (20) (D) Charles Saurders 10 M Cleanon 6 8 1 R Hills 4 1 SAUNDERS WICE) (20) (D) Charles Saurders 10 M Cleanon 6 8 1 R Hills 4 1 SAUNDERS WICE) (20) (D) Charles Saurders 10 M Cleanon 6 8 1 R Hills 4 1 SAUNDERS WICE) (20) (D) Charles Saurders 10 M Cleanon 6 8 1 R Hills 4 1 SAUNDERS WICE) (20) (D) Charles Saurders 10 M Cleanon 7 BETTENC 3-1 More Sheer, 9-2 Moorethine Cat, 6-1 Commence, 11-2 Denning Drop, 13-2 Dennie Perete, 10-1 Cleanie Park, 12-1 Rimon, 14-1 others
1996: She Duster 2 8 8 M I Kreann 7-4 (D Loder) 12 ron

Chris Dwyer, who has been training for only 10 months, can click here with his unbeaten CONNEMARA. The Mujahā filly scored by sk lengths at Warwick and made all to defect previous scorer Foot Battalion a length and a half at Chester with the long-odds-on Carmine Lake a further two lengths back in third. This is going to take some wirning but Connemara probably has some improvement left and is alightly, preferred to More Stiver, Moonstitue Gild and Dance Parade. More Stiver and Dance Parade represent Paul Cole, whose youngstern have been really flying this senson. More Stiver was a highly impressive at Newbury on her single start to date, while Dance Parade has a 100 per cent record after two attempts. only outing to date, inching out Dancing Drop at Sandown and there should again be Ritle Calianta (1994), while Dancing Drop (who goes for this in preference to Friday's Windsor Casde) comes from Richard Hannon's stable, which sent out Lytic Fantasy and Risty to win in 1992 and 1993.

3.45 CORONATION STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 1) £150,000 370 filles 1.m (md) Pen Val £120,726 _B Doyle 5

BETTING: 5-4 Shake The Yoks, 7-4 To RM, 7-2 Dance Dusign, 14-1 Priory Selle, 20-1 Thrilling Day, 25-1 Last Second, 100-1 Miss Universal 1995: Regismoot Pearl 3 9 0 J P Mortagh 9-2 (J Cox, Id) 10 ran

FORM GUIDE

SHAKE THE YOKE found Ta Rib three-quarters of a length too good in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches at Longchentp last month but she made up aimost three lengths after being burnped and having to be switched that day. Bie Lelbouche's charge had earlier beaten Rabonnable who was only a couple of lengths behind her in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches) by 10 lengths on her respessance on the same occurse and, with Oliver Pestier booked, can evenge that latest detest, although Ta Rib is a progressive type, having previously struck form at Newmarket on her return. Dennet Weld's Dance Design, who ran very well to finish a three-length second behind Manya in the Irian 1,000 Gutness on her first appearance since a fount to Plus Taith in the Prix Marcel Bousses at Longchamp lest Colober - Shale The Yoke a length and a half in front of her no second – hooks certain to go well again. Last Second won both her races at two, the latest a Group Three at the Curragh in October but is up against it here and is without a race since. The Tilling Day inched out 6th Saksabil in the seven-furiong Nati Gwyn and now tackles today's trip for the first time after being outpaced in the aix-furiong Duke of York Stakes.

Selection: SHAKE THE YOKE

	HI (US AX-IV	HOLE COME OF LINE STREET.	AL SUMME THE TOME
,	14	1.20	ROYAL HUNT CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS £60,000 added 1m (str) Penalty Value £55,	B) BROW
			£50,000 added 1m (str) Penalty Value £55,	265
ļ	1	113-114	TARANA (35) (CD) (Ms.) (calcutum) in Calcutum 4 9 10.	
•	2	264-532	CADENIX TRYST (39) (Materium Al Materium) E Dunkin 4 9 8	R# # # €
	3	3233-32	GREEN GREEN DESERT (FR) (85) (P D Savin Lady Heaves 5 9 5	K Derior 31
	4		SLONEERS (12) (D) (Compt. Group Pict J. Fanshave 4.9.5 (Ted	
	5	402-600	BEAUCHAMP MZZ (23) (3) (E Penser) / Dunky 4 9 4	C Assessed 10
	6	00-1241	SER'S ROYALE (25) (0) (Mrs Painck Flynn) P Flynn (at) 5 9 4	
	7		DESERO GREEN (FIR) (22) (D) (Ms P Adopt) R Harmon 7 9 3	
	8	150-354	MOMENTS OF FORTUNE (USA) (34) (D) (Abdulati Ali) B Harbury 4:	9 1
	9		BEHAVIOUR (12) (D) (James H Stone) Mrs J Cool 4 9 0	
			DONNA VIOLA (12) (D) (Neran D Scott) C Wall 4 9 0 (7ed	
			KAYVEE (25) (CC) (J H Richmond-Weston) G Herwood 7 8 13	
			MOVENIA AFRON (11) (D) (G W Westparth) Mass S Hall 5 S 12	
	13	10-1050	STOKE REDGE (11) (D) (Mrs Circs Hastrogon) R Harmon 4.8 12	
	14	0-000013	AMBAK AJEEB (15) (D) (A Mezzi B Harbury 4 8 11	Reid 19
	15	110-030	WOLD RICE (12) (8F) (Lady Oppenheimen G Wrate: 489	N/ JMHz 25 V
	16	1053-03	CYMICRAK PREMIERE (29) (CD) (Gyrrcrak Racing Club) G Holmes 8	8 8 W Nevence 29 V
	17	110-412	SRUMMA BLUSS (RUSA) (25) (D) (Jack Tierrey) D (Maid (Int) 4 8 8	M Vistoe 17
	18	020-005	ARIL (44) (D) (Hardan Al Makoum) R Amatrong 4 8 7	W Carace 22
	19	632-112	YEAST (40) (C) (D) (BF) (B Haggas) W Haggas 4 8 6	
	20	50-6012	MEW CENTURY (USA) (13) (I) (W) Kellyl D Nicholis 4 8 6	
	21	306-000	CEDEZ LE PASSAGE (11) (0) (A.) Richards) K Currningham-Brown 5	86
	22	053-144	STAR MANAGER (USA) (81) (D) (M Apilly P Cole 6 8 5	
	23	00202-2	SERBOUS (12) (Mrs Dens Highes) Lady Hemes 6 8 3	Peri Eddary 20
	24	3030,42	TEXTRUM (11) (D) (W N Smith) M Wate 483	Fortune 2
	25	00-4340	CHICKANICKA (5) (Menthy: Motor Auctions) 8 Palling 5 8 2.	
	28	300003	CRUMPTON HOL (44) (D) (T H Credney) N Gostem 4 8 1	Roberty 1
	2(1110/02	BLAZE OF SONG (23) (D) (D Boosseld R Herman 4.8.1	8 Sanders 26
	25	15/302	STAR THEFAT (USA) (10) faces to Crowley) Miss (key Kellenby 5.8.1	
	2	W447/3	CZARNA (8) Dike Seen M Collins) C Britain 580	
	30	THE 200	PENGANION (25) (D) (Mass Arabella Smallmart) H Collegidge 4 7 13	
	21	120 040	Zrgo (USA) (9) (Lord Howard de Waldert) W Jeres 4 7 13	PCGloss 12
	-22		MO-ADDAS (15) (CD) (S J Hammond) A Stewart 6 7 12	

FORM CLIDS

Four against the field in one of the tricklest races in the calendar are Yeast, New Contury, Tertum and AMPAIK AFSES. Yeast, after beating the odds-on Worm at Newcastle on his Tertum, and AMRAIK ATEES. Years, after beating the odds-on Warm at Newcestle on his return, won the 24-numer Victoria Cup over seven futiongs of today's track with Kayvee seventh. Gyracraic Premiers frinth and Wild Rice (in a first-time visor today) 16th. Years, who was short-headed by Alhawa at Lingfield nine days afterwards, can confirm course numer, though Kayvee, fifth in last year's race, should again go well. Moreing Amore finished a head behind Kayvee in short last season with Star Manager 14th, Childrawicka 16th, Serious 22nd and Gymcrak Premiere 24th of 32. New Century, who was a useful juventle for Henry Cecif's stable and is now with David Nicholis, gave a pwo-and-e-helf length besting to Saturday's York winner Sandmoor Chambray at Think lest month - Childrawicka third and Fertimus last of 18. New Century later cheated home Knobbernezze at Chaster - Wild Rice 10th of 12. He was going on at the firsh effer misering the breek and not getting the best of runs. Tertium's Think turning is best ignored. He followed a Beverley victory last month with a good fourth of 16 to Migwar in the Zeitand Gold Cup and was caught close

home and besten half a langer by Ele-Anstokrati at Epsom 11 days ago. However, Annak Ajeeb can best them all. Trained by the in-form Ben Hanbury, the selection was unlucky rif running when a tires length sidt of 13 behind Desert Green hand was writing the race for the second year in succession) in the Jubiles at Kempton last month and later came home a most decisive winner of an 18-tunner race at Newbury. He was besten only a head by Philitor in a lasted event at Taby last time. Arman Ayeeb can newers Kempton running writing the property of the second of the secon quarter in a sub-standard Diadem at Epsom and can again prove the pick of the pair at second at the Current four weeks ago, separated by a length, and they are weighted to and Annak Ajeeb in arrears and he followed up over course and distance, beauting Behav-lour (3lb better) half a length with Green Green Desert (5lb worse) a neck away third and Bromberg severith of eight. Tarawa later finished three and a quarter lengths adnit of Gree Green Desert when they were second and fourth to yesterday's Prynce of Wales's victor First Island at York - Kaywee and Behaviour seventh and right of 13 - but should run well. So

Jection: AMRAX AJEEB							
4.55 QUEEN'S VASE (CLASS A) (Group 3) £50,000 added 3YO 2m Penalty Value £32,150							
1	2341	ARMSEN (33) (W.J. Gredley) C. Bratan 8.11	K Declay 5				
2	55·11,	ATHEREY (36) (A.) Therapson) J. Pearce 8 11	Berdenil 11				
3	4- <u>112</u>	BACKDROP (24) (R E Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8 11					
4	02-154	BENATION (USA) (26) (T F Hams) H Ceal 8 11					
5	4-232	CLERGENMENT (USA) (13) (Sheikh Moteumed) M Stoute 8 11	W Casson 3				
6	041	606Di (USA) (28) (Alien E Paulson) D Weld Arti 8 11	M J (Chance 4				
7	123	LALLANS (36) (BF) (Shelift Mohermeeth M Johnston & 11					
8	11	PERSON PUNCH (8) (J C Smith) D Essenti 8 11	R Hathes 9				
9	052	QASIDA (30) (Sheikh Mohammed Obed Al Makssum) C British 8 11	B Dords 13				
10	1	SHEPPAS (64) (K Abdulis) H Card 8 11	Pat Eddery 8				
11	51	TIGER LAKE (5) (Codolphan) Saxed by Surger 8 11	Carroll 6				
12	31	VALEDICTORY (18) (Lord Howard de Waltierii H Ceci 8 11	C Assesses 7-				
13	524-422	WELKHANDER (7) (Maktourn Al Maktourn) 9 Hills 8 11	M Hills 10'				
14	540-630	ZAFORRAM (11) (The Forum Ltd) L Montegue Helt 8 11	O Poster 1.				
		49 444					

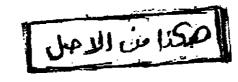
SETTING: 3-1 Sharpes, 7-2 Backdres, 11-2 Lallans, 8-1 Valedictory, 9-1 Gord, 12-1 Athenry, Persian Punch, 14-1 Digor Lalor, 16-1 Clorkemont, 20-1985: Sudvo 3 8 11 M J Kinarie 7-4 (H Cacil) 11 ran

Henry Cecil, who took this with Arden (1987), Jendali (1991) and Stelvio (1995), can as Herry Cool, who book this with Arden (1987), Jendell (1981) and Stelvio (1995), can again, do the trick, this time via SHERPAS, who is the ideal type for this race. The son of Shirley-Heights has had only the one race, justifying favouritism at Newmarker in April, making wurtuisly all and running on atrongly to master dual subsequent scorer Sasuru a head with stablemate Valedictory a length back in third and Wilawoonde, Zadrowan and Qeolda fourth, soth and severith. This extra helf-mite should prove just right for Sherpes, and you can bet, he will be fit to run for his life despite the 64-day key off. Valedictory went on to win over a make and three-quarters on the same course and will sob be well at home over this journey. So, too, will Laillans, who scored by 15 lengths on his introduction at Carlese and chased home Dualhyansor at two lengths of Newmarket before a fast-finishing third to Athenry at York (1m 6f). Over this longer trip and with 3 3to achientage, Letters should reverte that form, and he might prove Sherpas' most danglery heal.

an	d he mig	nt prove Sherpas' most dangarous rival.	Selection: SHERPAS
[BESSBOROUGH STAKES (HANDICAP) (I added 1m 4f Penalty Value £25,191	
1	014-304	NAKED WELCOME (12) (D) (The Mass Welcome Partnership) A	F-Godley 4 10 0! Steld 6
2	1514-16	SNIGNARINO (48) (4.Abbaen 9 HBs 4 9 11	Pat Fatlary 9
3	400-404	KINGO (USA) (IAS) (C) (D) (The Delighting Company Limped) C (Strawn 5 9 10 B Dovie 10 .
4	4405-02	SON OF SHARP SHOT (12) (CD) (Wholflower Holdings Inc) / ()	unico 69 10 Paul Editory 19
5	305-321	WAJOR CHANGE (S) MIS C I POWER R HERMON 494 (Test	K Darier 11
6	006-100	LONDANDIC (USA) (27) (D) (Bonusport) May J Capi 5 9 2	T free 4
7	0-03236	HARDY DANCER (11) (BF) (Peter 1, Hason) & L Moore 4.9.1	S Whitworth 17 :
8	0000-00	BURNANG RUSA) (45) (Alektri Dasmal) G Hanwood 4 9 0	M HR 19
9	5153:11	DANCE SO SUITE (11) (DE (1 S Quite) P Colo 4 8 13.	W Common &
10	220-411	BEALICHAMP JADE (25) (D) (E Penser) H Cardy 4 8 11	
11	12/41-51	COCHREY LAD (250) (25 (1) Date N Mende 7 (8 11	M J Electro 2
12	2000-00	BOB'S PLOY (459 Older M Bankelli M Toroniane 4.9.9	D Dobleson 7
13	GE-00EU	AU LIBERCEY (320 (Bruce Adams) R Hannon 4 8 8	1 F See 17 .
24	UUS-631	TREEYOR (13) (D) (Semmour Bloodstock (UK) List) Lady Hemer	886 Ftweeh 69 14.
35	3Z-6G	TOUR CES (D) (Kenneth Merchanne) P Calur 4.9.6.	1.P
16	2160-00	MY LEARINED FRIEND (33) (C) Auts. J Ambertal A Hina 5.9.5	A Marchana 4K '
17	033630	SNADOW LEADER (227) (CR Clames Blacksheut C Fosons 5.9	4 W Dans 43 ·
18	0380115	REMAKE SEN (25) IDS (Trace Redail M Schor J. 2.3	· D Charak 4.8
. 19	253006	BENGLEET (21) (C) (C G Doorman) R Armstrong 5 A 2	M Beleaste 9
20	5 43 0-56	EPHANISTO (47) (C) (Admin Fizpenick) J White 7 7 10	N Carllate 20 B
_		- 20 declared -	

PETTINE: 6-1 Dance So Suite, 13-2 Sou of Sharp Shot, 7-1 Beauchtump Jede, 9-1 Sentmartino, 11-L Mained Welcows, 12-1 Wesle, 14-1 others 1995: Son Of Sharp Shot 5 8 13 Pet Eddery 5-1 (J Durlop) 19 ran FORM GUIDE

Port Eddery was on Son Of Sharp Stow when John Dunlon's sur-year-old landed this last seenson but teams up with SANMARTINO here. Barry Hills' good-looking son of Salse will be more at home dropped in distance and back into handlan company after tacking Double. Trigger in the two-mile Sagaro States here last time. Before that, he won well under 10st at Newmaniet (1 m 67 on his respectance and he landed lest year's Etor. Beauchamp lade had Son Of Sharp Shot, Bob's Ploy, Burning and Lombandic some way behind when winning at Newmaniet last month and she followed up at Dondaster, where Remmand San rap poorly after an impressive York victory. Son Of Sharp Shot left that running way behind when ging down a head to Backgrimon at Epeam, where Neked Welcosse (2to better) fireshed a length back in fourth and At Liberty eighth of nine, Tylevour, a three-length third to Remand Sun at York, has since scored at Beverley and, with a 2to put. Can reverse form with that winner, especielly with smert 5th-deliner Fergal Lynch in the seddle. Denice So State, who has won both his races this season, at Newbury and Epeom, could go close off only a 3th higher mark than last time. Wille Carson takes over from the suspended Rehard Quinn on Paul Cole's runner. The Irish inveder Cockney Lad, a useful hurder, won at Leon-cressions take month and could pose a threat with Mick Ninans on board.



sport 11

Top hats keep revellers in the shade

Serena Mackesy on racegoers who turn away from the track.

PRE INIEPANIENT

The great thing about an event like Royal Ascot is that it brings home those little lessons about why dress becomes archaic. Morning dress, for instance; it looks absolutely terrible with sun-glasses. On a baking day with that lit-tle hint of thunder, the toffs in the Royal Ecclosure sported them heroically. Well, less heroically than chinlessly, but what the heck

Top hats, actually, are great disquise: they make everyone look identical, so the fighting pack of press photogra-phers on the balcony above fail to spot adulterers until they have passed by. Those feathered cartwheels women

above, a woman in the Royal Enclosure looks like a fried egg, a jammy dodger or a cowpat with legs. What she doesn't look like is someone with a face.
One gets the feeling, though, that you don't get the full experience in the Enclosure. All human life mills around outside it: the snogging, the fighting,

the hand-waving, the big teeth.
What is really weird about Royal Ascot, as opposed to your average meeting, is that not only does it attract a crowd who don't make a habit of racegoing, but half of them aren't even up for the business of horseflesh at all.

Even the stands round the paddock divere packed with women in hats whose round. "Oh, my Gawd," said a woman of neks were turned resolutely away low at the parading nags and toward the that ing hoi polloi. They nimed back for of 67,00 ent, of course, when The Queen While up, fetchingly arrayed in knee-seemed the florals, blue hat, white ace florals, blue hat, white ac-and toning green-hued and an aura of sun-faded chintz per-Little murmurs rumbled vades. Racegoers may attempt to dress



the costumes in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang,
What does she think she's wearing? Royal Ascot is quintessentially British. One sees very few complexions

never quite match and they still loss as though it's a tasteless foreign habit. Clogged in the tunnel which runs below ground from paddock to grand-

'Ascot attracts a crowd who don't make a habit of racegoing and half of them aren't even up for the horseflesh at all'

round. "Oh, my Gawd," said a woman up like they're going to a benefit gala overexposure to the proletariat, one felt who seemed to have based her gear on the costumes in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, the tops of their heels in the car tail party on the outer fringes of a serious business here – wasn't intail party on the outer fringes of a serious business here - wasn't inparks, their top bits and bottom bits Hades. Many people never made it out of the champagne bar at all, but watched the proceedings on telly. They missed that powerful wave of sound that rushed through the grand-

terrupted. A happy blonde women clutched a half-bottle with joy as Bijou D'Inde hurst through in a photo-

Photograph: Robert Hallam

finish. She had had a pound on him at 9-1. "Another winner," she said, "and stand and spares the Royal gang from stand when the horses hit the straight, I'll have paid for this drink." KPMG PASAS HCAP (CLASS E) SKY 7.30 £4,200 added 1m 54yds | 54,200 added 1m 54yds | 54,200 added 1m 54yds | 55,200 added 1m 54yds | 55,200 added 1m 54yds | 55,200 added 1m 54yds | 57,200 added 1m 54,200 added

8.00 MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES SKY | CLASS E; 224,5000 2TU SF | LEVER GOLF STORMER (B) T | Neughton 8:10, _T Sprale 8 | SURE FRACTORS (B) | Gover 8 S. ____ S D Williams 6 | CHASSETONN FLYER (20) R Hobrishean 8 4 ___ F Neumon 10 | THE FOUR SULS (B) D Hopen Jones 8 4 ___ F Neumon 10 | VICTORIA'S OBEAM (T) M Charnon 8 4 ___ P P Murphy (S) 9 | AMERICAN COLOR | Neumon 10 | AMERICAN COLOR | Neumon 10 | N NO CLASS (21) R Hams 7 13.

~ 10 deciseed ~

BETTING: 7-2 Agheogist, 4-1 Victoria's Dream, 9-2 Suite Factors, 5-1 Eye
Shadow, 8-1 The Fear Likes, Chasetown Figur, 12-1 others SHADWELL APPRENTICE HICAP CHY

(CLASS F) £3,450 1m 6f 265566 CLIBURNEL NEWS (16) A Streets 6 9 1.

Recebell

SAME CORREST
AMERICAN LENGUE: Delicard S Detrot 4:10 inhogg: Microsotta 6 New York Yarkess 3 Michouse 9 Surrass Co. 4: Carterna 9 Chocajo Wate
Six R:13 in prog. Postponent Behmone 1 Rem.
PATROSEL LENGUE: New York Mess 7 Postponent
6:12 / ringle. Sam Francisco 3 Fonda O: Restma
9 Sam Deg 3: Housetin 5 Campaig 4: Mortes
o 1: Copyano 3: Postponent Chocago Cust y Lis
Arman.

Cricket

England's women boosted their confi-dence for the Test series against New Zealand, which begins at Scarborough next week, with a much improved per-turn area in the facilities of the model. ner week, with a misch-improved per-formance in the final one-day match at Chester-le-Street yestenday. The tourists won by 25 runs to take the senes 3-0 but England made a bold atternot to chase a dawring 50-over target of 237 to seven finishing the day with 212 be-ters they work all our with three holds. fore they were all out with three balls

fore they were all out with three balls retriaining.

SECOND 31 CHANN-ONESIEF first day of themst: Assessment Carrogges 302 3.1 Delivo 13.2 R I Army 4.7 and 31 to 0.5 Subter 233 to 9 dec 10 M 45-54. R In Ran 5.5 S M 52 were 6.54.5 Seastlenthed Duman 13.1 R M 5 Mero 192. Illumphy 5.5 F A Getter 5.71 and 6.7 Derbyster 33.1 ft 4 dec 1.4 R Indian 5.71 and 6.7 Derbyster 33.1 ft 4 dec 1.4 R Indian 1.5 T i and 1.7 C Remy 103. C D Cours 5.0 D Attend 4.3 I I C C Remy 103. C D Cours 5.0 D Attend 4.3 M 5.4 S of 1.4 S of 1

Philippe Gaumont and Laurent Desbi-ens, both GAN team riders, have recently failed a drugs test, according to FEquipe, the French daily sports newspaper. Key reported that traces of the banned steroid Nandrolone had been found in the pair's unne samples after races in

The pair's Universal States and Second and May.

April and May.

APPENDATIONAL WEEK (late of Man) Second under 22 man from the way to the second by 1280 Second 100 min. 18. Second 100 Sec

TOUR OF SMILZERLAND (Grindowald to Francarhild, 22/2km) Landing placings in the eighth stages 1.0 EoNs (Gerl 5tr 11mm 3cc; 2.1 Exch. (Rev. 4 Sec. 3 v Earno, 1804 + 2sc; 4 Abeno Dir (II); 8 Lance Armstrang (USr, 6 B Holm (Den); 7 H Forton (II), 8 A Meer (Sect. 3 M Same Intel: 9 M Applicate (II), 8 A Meer (Sect. 3 M Same Intel: 9 M Applicate (II), 8 A Meer (Sect. 1 Sect. 3 M Sect. Se

Drugs in sport shot-putters, has been banned for four years after being tested positive for ephednine and norephednine.

Football Algera have barned the national coach and his deputy from coaching for life and dissolved the national federation and league following elimination from the World Cup. Senior officials have also been barred from responsibility in official sport

for five years.

LIGGUI-BAN LEAGUE Final standings: 1 Dynamo New 7901x 2 Chemomorats Odessa 73; 3 Drept Dreptetrosyk 63; 4 CSMA-Bonyslen Bonyspi 56: 5 Metalturg-Vidor Zapotrachyk 52.

1996/87 FRIST-DAY FROURES: Samutiny 17 August FA Carling Promisensity. Asonal v West Hartt Boatou nv Toterham: Coverny v Notingham Forest: Dotty v Leets; Everny v Newcastic; Andersbrough v Leepoo; Shelfied Wednesday v Ason Witz Southernoton v Chebox; Sunderland v Leets-ter, Warbledon v Marchester for Noticeshard v Leets-ter, Warbledon v Marchester for Noticeshard v Cystal Kangley Frigt Orleiten: Barmarghon v Crystal

England's Caroline Hall is out of the Evian Ladies Masters, which starts today, after being admitted to hospital for emergency appendicts on her armal in France. Northumberland's lain Feme and Lin-Northumberland's lain Ferne and Lin-cohshire's Matthew King, never before capped at any level, have been named in the England side for the European youth team championship in Madeira from 10-14 July. ENGLAND TEAM (Erropean Youth Team Championship, Madeira, 10-14 July): Loun-ald (Beaconsheld). C Date Pomes Parin, I Fer-te (Armourn, M lung flot Hotel). C Rodger Royal Md. Sarron, S Webster (Med.). Non-trav-olling reserve: D Liscas (Worksop).

Allan Bateman, the Welsh centre is to fly back from Australia to play for his

country against England in the European Championship decider next Wednesday. Regby Union YOUR MATCH Research Bay of Planty 12 book-land 35. Melhourne: Voters 17 Water 42

Francis Joyon moved into the lead of the Europe 1 Single Handed Trans At-lantic Race yesterday. The making Giovanni Soktim heads the Monotolik. The world No 1, Ed Baild of America. had an unbeaten four-win first day in Group A of the Coupe Brut de France match racing grand prix in Sete. Also in Group A Britan's Chris Law won three of his four starts.

Lean Taylor, the 18 year-old from Chetteron injust the 129 year-oat from their techam, has been confirmed yesterdan-as a member of the British drang squad-for the Garnes in Atjusta along with kiny Ali, Robort Morgan, Hasby Allen and Les-ley Ward. The technique will compete in

Sisting of the 47-46, 1 Spaller of Sisting who has the 27-56.

WHEMLEDON QUALIFYSHIS (Resistance) March singles second resumd. I homores meath in Mindiguez Angli 6-16-7. A larnel Service Presentation of Mindiguez Angli 6-16-7. A larnel Service Presentation of Artist of 17-50. Park ul55-18 B Poword Angli 6-4. N Godenn (SA) of Gladel 16-6-3. N Godenn (SA) of Gladel 16-6-3. D Administration of Artist of The Artist of Trial Color of Service Presentation of Artist of Trial Color of Service Presentation (SA) o

CHART 1825 6-2 G-3.

DRECT LINE SESURANCE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS (Exestivarina) First round: M. J. Fernandez (US) bit M. Werde-Himmeyer (US) 6-2 6-0; A Suguerra (Expan) bit C Wood (RS) 6-4 6-3; V BISIAN (INDIA) N. FEBRUAR (INDIA) S. L. RAYMING (US) bit M. RECHMENT (EM) 6-1 6-3; N. ARMING (US) bit M. RECHMENT (EM) 6-3 6-2; Gorrachategu (Arg) bit S. Farma (ID) 6-2 6-3; L. AcMed (US) bit M. Deen Liaconi 6-4 2-6 6-2. M. Taucart (Fr) bit L. Wid (US) 6-1 6-2; I Speries (Rom' bit M. Perre (P) 6-0 5-7 6-2; L. Deengouri (US) bit G. Formandez (US) 6-3; L. N. Zeeres, alleda bit A. Maler (US) 6-1 7-6.

BIG BEAR CHAMPIONS OVER 35 MEN'S TOUR-

BIG BEAR CHAMPIONS OVER-35 MEN'S TOUR-NUMERY (Columbia, Onlo): Final; J Carvors (US) bt A Gome: (Ecu) 6-2, 6-2. WOMEN'S GRASS COURT CHARMYON SIMES (Plasmanna, Netherlands) Prof. name in Recognitive that an annual in Bod (1946) 1945. The Recognitive that it is Mikalanca (Ball 4-6-2-6-1). It is Recognitive that it is Reproduced (1946) 1946. The Land (1946) 1947. The Land (194

6-2 6-4

CARBERO INTERNATIONAL MER'S CLAY COURT TOURNAMENT (Bologue, Rably Flort round: Costa (Spi to J Ameso (Spi 6-3 6-3; J Dae; Spi 66 G-90; Faldan (Ag) 6-1 6-3; Sevenation (Marie of General Faldan (Ag) 6-1 6-3; Sevenation (Marie of General Carlo) 6-4; Buhnach (C-Rep) tot I. Roun (Fri 7-6 6-2; B. Unhach (C-Rep) tot I. Roun (Fri 7-6 6-4; H France of General Carlo) 6-4; Flore of General Carlo) 6-4; General (Ag) 6-4; Gener

or success

sk 2.50 Alpine Time 3.25 Insider Trad-Dancing Image 4.35 Bold Elect 5.10 Etark 5.40 Sharpical

Straight - stands' side; 1m 4f - outside; round course (LAW ADVANTAGE: Nope. LAW ADVANTAGE: Nope. Land course. A sharp rack with tight bends. jurse is east of the city on B6265. ADMISSION: Club [radis 18; Silver Ring 54; Course 52 (accompanied un-je all enclosures). CAR PARE: Can dup to four oc-) course enclosure 58; remainder free.

BLIN. IN LAST SEVEN DATS: Astec Traveller (2.50) won at Bevering in Wednesday, Daneing Image (4.00) won at Kempton on Wednesday Exterby Park (5.10) won at Carlisie on Thursday. TANCE BUNNERS: Rich to Love (2.50), Sally Slad 10NG. SCANGE MUNICIPAL SERVICE AND COLORS (2.25), in The Joys (4.25) & Chocolate Ice (5.10) have been sen 28 guilles by C Cyser from Maplehunst, W Sussex.

MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4.250 added 3YO 1m 2f

- 9 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Rosk, 11-4 Secondment, 6-1 South Wind, 6-1 Saudicille, - 10-1 Landfull, Russian Rose, 14-1 others

2.50 RICHMOND STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500 added 240 6f 50214 BOLERO BOY (13) M W Extenty 9 1 3413 DOUBLE ACTION (13) T Extenty 9 1

BETTING: 11-4 Double Action, 3-1 Alpine Ume, 7-2 Bolero Boy, 7-1 Young Bignig, Pandiculation, 10-1 Actec Travaller, Rick in Love

3.25 ACC CO-OP HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 5f

4.00 CITY OF RIPON HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3YO 1m

45-6604 KNEWINE (10) L Current 9 7... 5-43033 MENDO RAL BATAL (10) (BF) M Stotes 9 20em McMoom 5 01-3613 ROYAL CSULPH (10) Denys Smits 8 13 _ G Tangjoe (3) 1 36-6253 KAZIMERA (22) W Basy 8 10 _ _____ Quinn 2 365-231 DIRECTION MARKE (7) (D) | Bailing 8 10 Sect Mentin Divyer (5) 6 327-620 RUSSIAN BASCAL (15) T Experty 8 5 ______ 8 Timespre 3

- 6 declared -BETING: 11.4 Dancing Image, 3-1 Meson Hai Batal, 7-2 Kilvins, 5-1 Ray-

4.35 BEAUMONTS LADIES' DERBY H'CAP (CLASS E) £4,250 added 1m 4f 60yds 0-20133 BAYRAK (USA) (5) (2) M Pyan 6 11 7____Mbys) Affices 11

025065 HEIGHWARDS MARKE (7) M Dods 4 10 9_Mins D Ke 053035 MASIER OF HE HOUSE (30 M Hereovid 10.106. Main M Carend (0005-00 Banks OF VISION (8) Mar Newsley 4 10 1 Mass M Owderov 200000 DANCINS DESIGN (212) R Bearran 4 10 1 Main R Shellada (9 4 0-21612 GOLD BLADE (12) (D) (SF) J Pearce 7 10 0 ... Mrs L Pearce 3

15 1100-3 Silve mentary (44) - research (16 54650-0 ICE MAGIC (12) Frankly 9 9 0 ... - 16 decised -Minimum weight: Str., Two hamilizap weights: Sice Brendy Str. 13th, Its Mag-

Ę	10	LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 3YO 1m 4f 60yds	
	433-56	MARISMA (27) Denys South 9 7Deas McKeone 4	
!	0935	CHOCOLATE ICE (18) C Cycer 9 6	
	001224	EAGLE CANYON (12) B Hasbury 9 S	
	006-01	ONE POUND (9) (0) B Hats 8 13	
	4-56100	DERVE (16) T D Barron 8 11	
i	535-021	DANKA, (159) (D) J Berhell 8 9	
•		JACKSON PARK (31) (D) T Easterby 8 9	
		BACOUTOFTHEBLUE (5) W Heath 8 7	
•	400-0	JEAN PIERSE (62) J Peace 8 2	
o		UNDERSTON (22) L Cumpo 8 1	
_		FOREST FANDASY (23) J Whenon 7 11	
Ξ	500 004	Property of the Control of the Contr	

- 5 declared BETIME: 6-4 Sharpicel, 2-1 Austher Time, 4-1 Break The Rules, 6-1 Greeni-

5.40 BEDALE LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,250 added 1m 2f

52120-0 PLOUTING LINE (25) (2) (0) I Alston 88 11 __M Welson 2 043-006 GUESSTERATION (UGA) (5) (2) (3) J Peace 7 8 11_M Day 3 -5 declared -

NOTTINGHAM HYPERION

6.30 Yet Again 7.00 Close Relative 7.30 Helios 8.00 Suite Factors 8.30 Royal Circus 9.00 Falcon's Flame

GOING: Good to Pinn, Firm in places (watering).
STALLS: 57 & 67 - stands' side; remainder - inside.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 67 and 67.

Left-hand, oval course. Flat and galloping with easy turns.
Course is 2m E of city of B636. Nottingham statum 2m. AD-

SION: Clob \$12 (Juniors, 16-2) years, \$8); Tattersalls \$8: Silver Ring & Paddock \$4. CAR PARK: Silver Ring \$12 (adm car plus four occupants), remainder free.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ballysokerry (7.30); Friendly ES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Helios (7.30) won a Newbory on Thursday. Newbory on 1 massay.

LONG-DESTANCE KINNEES: Araboybill (6.30) & Darbam (8.30) have been sent 192 miles from R Simpson's West Bockland sta-

6.30 BURTON JOYCE SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS 6) £3,000 added 1m 2f

7.00 EBF MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,850 added 270 67 CANADONI FANTENSY M Johnson 90...

5 LET INQUES (23) P Cole 8 9... - 7 declared -BETTHM: 7-4 Glose Relative, 3-1 Canadian Feetany, 5-1 James, 7-1 Me-labers, Lily Jaques, 8-1 Chingachgook, 12-1 Nominator Lad

- 10 declared -BETTING: 11-4 Howque River, 3-1 Opeque, 7-2 Catago, 7-1 Royal Circus, 8-1 Cilbernel News, Paronomasia, 10-1 Declares, 16-1 others 9.00 OLD LENTON HCAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3YO 1m 54yds

WORGESTER

HYPERION 6.45 Parish Walk 7.15 Pleasant Surprise 7.45 Judicial Field 8.15 Damas 8.45 Top Spin 9.15 Call The Guy'nor

GOING: Good to viru.

Left-land course, level with long straights and easy turns.

Course is on the A443. Worcester (Foregate S.) station 1m. ADMISSION: Members S 12.50; Tatessalls S.9.50; Course S.5 (OAPs
S2.50). CAR PARKE Free; pienic area parking S2.50.

BUNKERED PIEST THEE: Against The Clock (6.45, visored); Classic (8.15); Demma (8.15, visored); Baland (9.15, visored).
WYNNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: NonLONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Bullythe (8.45) has been sent 294 es by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 6.45 ST MARTINS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,450 added 2m

7.15 NOVICE CLAIMING HURDLE SKY GLASS F) £2,650 added 2m [35425.]

35425. PLASANT SUBPRESE (23) M Pos 41 11 ... D Bridgemen (23544 L. MICER) (25) R Judes 4 11 11 ... D Bridgemen (23544 L. MICER) (25) R Judes 4 11 12 ... T Broy PPUF. MICER (25) R Judes 4 10 13 ... Steppe Graham (25) CHOOL (25) R JUDES (25) R J

- 13 declared -SETTING: 7-4 Pleasant Surpline, 9-2 Lacont, 7-1 Minnesota Febs, 8-1 Re-ally Next, Betabetcarbett, 10-1 Woodlands Energy, 14-1 others

7.45 OVERBURY HOAP CHASE (CLASS SKY) 1 FE9/3-P CASTLE KRNG (43) (b) P Hodger 9 12 0 B Powell 2 G334/3-P CRUMSTOK (24) (b) Dy K Bulley 10 10 13 A Thornton 3 21.15/6-F FRAM. PRINC (20) P Bowell 10 10 13 Mir R Thecrinon (7) 4 417813-F THE LORENTAM (410) (D) N R Marchell 8 10 10 ... III Upton Minimum: 10st. True weights: Bitacrach St. Ste, Sakombe Herbour St. 4 BETTIME: 8-2 Judicial Field, 7-2 Healey Registra, 4-1 Golden Madja 7-1 Bitacrack, Dramstick, 8-1 Finel Pride, 14-1 others 8.15 H & W NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS SKY)

| Salay | Sala

8.45 GREEN STREET NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 7f

3 0POSF-5 ARTIFUL ARTIFUR (21) L Grasset 10 11 2 Mr J Grannick P.PODD. BENDALZE (42) 8 Share 8 11 2 V Shathay F.PODD. SENDALZE (42) 8 Share 8 11 2 D Morris 6 000 DISTNS TENAL (1144) P Bowen 7 11 2 Mr R Thornton (7) 7 22PPP-4 BEZAL (21) H BLOTTON TO 11 2 Mr R Thornton (7) 7 22PPP-4 BEZAL (21) H BLOTTON TO 11 2 Mr R Thornton (7) 8 30424-5 MAMOR ROTTON (22) A Jones 6 11 2 Mr R Constant 10 0025 PROF SURSET (23) A Lores 6 11 2 R Grannich 10 0025 PROF SURSET (23) A ROTTON 8 11 2 R Johnson 10 0025 PROF SURSET (23) A ROTTON 8 11 2 R Johnson 12 00059 SPP (45 SARRE (15) P Bowen 9 11 2 Mr McParton 12 00059 SPP (45 SARRE (15) P RACTON 8 11 2 Mr McParton 13 00165-3 TOP SPM (11) BR) J JERNIS 7 11 2 Mr McParton 15 3035636 BRORA ROSE (190) P Rocton 3 10 11 S Barrongh 8 16 16 PROF N 10 10 N Mr SP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 19 18 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 18 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 19 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 19 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11) W HERP 5 10 8 Mr Supple 19 3-4002 P REP BINDER (11

£4.70. DF: £12.80. CSF: £22.09. This fill 13.0. CSF: £22.09. This fill 13.0. CSF: £3.0 Section of Royal Assot 2.0 today. NF: Nation Point.

£20.1. VERGLAS (W Supple) 9-1; 2. Daylight in Dathari 25-1; 3. Deadly Dudley 7-4 fax. 15 ran. 242. 142. (R Pendergest, Instant Point.

£3.0. Totas £16.20; £3.60, £6.0, £1.40.

£5.240.50. CSF: £184.83. This £18.80.

£4.861. NORTH SONG (§ Hvid) 14-1; 2. Instant 13-2 fax; 3. Resistan Minoid 11-1; 4. Redden Osasks £6-1. 3.1 ran. 13-2 faw Minoid Royal Complete Romanca. Hd. 1. U Goston, Newmarket, Totas £16.30; £3.30, £2.00, £3.60.

£5.20. EP; £52.90, £3.00, £3.00, £3.00.
£5.20. EP; £52.80, £52.00, £3.20.
£5.10.19. This £344.10. Nr. Messia.

£5.30; 1. SOUTHERN POWER (D Posici)
£6.1; 2. Misside 100-1; 3. Canalla Smile
£5.1; 4. See Visibe 20-1; 2. Sept. 3-1 to

Ment (Bth). 34, nk. (R Alvehuss, Essons). Tokes 554.00; £9.00, £21.80, £8.00, £4.10, DF; £8.237.50. CSF: £1,230.79. Theast: £40,665.11. Tifc: not won: £7,905.80 carned forward to Royal Asoot 4.20 today. NR: Nanton Point.
Jackpot: Not won: £52,275.12 camed forward to Royal Asoot today.
Placepot: £2,959.00. Quadpot: £137.10. Place 6: £1,600.14. Place 8: £1,029.34.

11 ram. 9-4 fav Broadgste Flyer (5th). 3-½. ½. (B Hantbury, Newmarket). Totac £3.10: £1.50, £11.60, £1.80, DF: £49.10. CSF: £67.65, Thor: £64.90. 3.25: 1. DARCEY \$USSEL1 (K Fallon)

5.10: 1. SABOT (K Fallon) 1-4 fav; 2, Abb 6-1; 3. Madrina 11-1. 8 ran. 3-9; 144. (B Hale, Lambourn). Tota: £1.30; £1.00, £2.90, £2.40. DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.02. E.40: 1. U-NO-MARRY (A Cutrane) 7-1: 2. Middle East 7-1; 3. Pathase 10-1. 17 ran. 4-1 fav The Wad. 2. st-Int. (R Hollerstead, Up-4-1 fav The Wad. 2, \$1-ini. (R Holmshead, U)-per Longdon). Total: £7-10; £2-40, £2-50. £5-50. £3-50. DF: £41-30. CSF: £67-23. Incast: £363-43. Inc. £41-80. NR: Stoney End. Placepol: £18.80. Quadqot: £8-90. Place & £28.79. Place & £18.88.

Ieff Thomasson, an American punic living in London, scooped a Tote Dual







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ROYAL ASCOT

2.30: 1. CHARNWOOD FOREST (M J Kinere) 19-11 fay 2. Restructions 11-1; 3. Minere (not 20-1. 9 ren. 4. Int. (See of his Susce, Novembries), Total 9: 52.00: £1.10, £2.20, £2.60. CF: £9.80. CSF. £10.32. This: £51.60. 3.05: 1. FIRST ISLAND (M Hile) 9-1; 2. Montjoy 16-1; 3. Tensoyar 12-1. 12 ren. 4-1 fay Pitscrist 14/4, 14/4. (M Wrang, Newmarket). Total: £11.20: £2.70. £4.60, £5.90. DF: £73.90. CSF: £121.20. This: £412.60. NR: Wayne County.

3.45: (1m St James's Paince Stakes)

1. BUOU D'HENG COUNTY.

2. Asthicaland J Homes 13-1 Wester 9-1.

2. Asthicaland J Homes 13-1 Wester 9-1.

3. Sorble Tower M J Homes 13-2 fay Also rest: 100-30 Spraning World (6th.), 11-2 Mark of Esteem, 12-1 Ceyman Kri. (6th.), 11-1 Mark of Esteem, 12-1 Ceyman Kri. (6th.), 14-1 Beauchamp King (4th.), 16-1 West ROYAL ASCOT

Street, 100-1 World Premier.
9 mm. Hd. 1, 144, 144, 144 (M Johnston, Middlehem). Fote: £9.70; £2.30, £1.30, £4.70. DF. £12.80. CSF; £22.09. Tro: £111.30.
4.20: 1. VERREAS (W Supple) 9-1; 2. Devliget in Debui 25-1; 3. Deadly Dudley 7-4 fav. 15 mm. 24, 134, (K Prendergast, Inclind). Totes £18.20; £3.60; £6.00, £1.40.
DF: £240.50. CSF; £184.83. Tro: £128.80.
4.88: 1. NORTH SONG (C Hard) 14-1; 2. Inspite 13-2; k gr. 3. Resigner Music

RACING RESULTS

paid £8,237.50 to £1 stake, but he won £16,475 as he held £2 worth of tickets.





to criti-





Did you guess our hidden personality?

The 24-year-old who likes to let off steam riding Harley-Davidsons and shouting at footballers – but never her favourite Gary Lineker, who played for her local side, Barcelona – is Conchita Martinez. She became a national hero two years ago when she became the first Spanish woman to win Wimbledon. She is seeded No 3 in this year's All England Championships.

Heroes and villains: England's players and supporters celebrate after the Scotland captain and No 10 Gary McAllister's second-half per in Olissaved by the England goalkeeper David Seaman, enabling the hosts to stay a goal in front in the crucial Group A clash at Wemerb ride Saturday (top). Just 60 seconds later, McAllister's anguish is multiplied as England's mercurial midfielder Paul Gascoigne soaks up the r in the

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD No. 3017. Wednesday 19 Ju

ACROSS
I Spill crack of the highest

quality (6)
4 Cross-grained stump of

tree delivered (8) 10 Recumbent sort suffering

12 Response from the choir

(4)
13 Trouble with apple-trees can be brief and unimportant (4-6)

(7)
23 Myrtle to marry, knot to be 7 fied (5-5)

tant (4-6)

15 Unvarying, even in costume dress (7)

16 Troy edition of paper (6)

19 Fields of study with authen-5 tic manuscript (6)

21 Fence complaining bitterly 6

freezer, ordinarily (4)
Plant in neat border (5)
The wind, said Pepys, is all over the place (9)
How to devalue the sover-

heat-burns (9)
11 Grant taking a Washington 30 Drink permitted in Swiss road? (5)
Cottage (6)

DOWN Aesthetically pleasing flutes at dance (8)

2 Point of story delivered with cordial manner (9) 3 But one can make square cuts in it (4)

Anguish of guys in the wrong (7)
Pile bashed about in a Dickensian office (10) Nothing to report of what was passed in Japan (5) 8 Untidy form of Adamitism

9 Belief in existence of gods is in people addressed (6)
14 Last defender in battle at Stamford Bridge? (10)

17 Sort of coupling that is all-embracing (9) 18 In the blissful state of a

gnome? (8)
20 Down south in new town in Wiltshire (7)
21 Holiday in a bay (6)
22 Road repaired around cricket club for match (6)
23 Solern looking upwers 24 Solemn-looking young thing in barn, possibly (5) 26 Third man to opening pair

OPublished by Nessspaper Publishing PLC, I Canada Squire, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St Back issues available from Historic Newsp Registered as a perspaper with the Park Office

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